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REVIEW OF BOOKS.

Observations on the Casual and Periodical Influence of Particular States of the Atmosphere on Human Health and Diseases, particularly Insanity. By Thomas Forster, F.L.S. 8vo. pp. 89. 1818.

THE climate of England, and its various atmospheric peculiarities, must be a subject deeply interesting to every thinking and philosophic mind: regular journals of meteorology, a science but little known in the last century, are now kept; and by a strict comparison of the atmospheric phenomena, with their apparent results on the human frame, discoveries are likely to be made of incalculable benefit to mankind in general.

The doctrine which Mr. F. has endeavoured to establish in this work, is to the following effect:—That there are peculiar states of the atmosphere, independent of its temperature, weight, or moisture, which have a particular influence on human health and disease. And that there is likewise, apparently independent of the above, a periodical influence occurring twice in the course of twenty-eight days, and that persons who are very irritable are liable to feel this influence at both the above periods; but, that healthy persons who are affected at one time in the month, are not affected at the other.

The periodical effect of atmospheric influence has been traced by Mr. F. as affecting not only the human frame, but flowers and the brute creation; and although no new facts have in this instance been adduced, yet it is only by attending to these apparently useless minutiæ that the general laws of organic nature can be satisfactorily explained. The following are some of his remarks on this subject:—

"Flowers in general open by the exposure to the sun; but others open and shut at particular hours of the day, even if the sun remain unclouded, as the purple goatsbeard, and the meadow geissbart, which shut up their flowers at noon. The regular periods of some flowers, like those of diseases, are interrupted by the condition of the atmosphere. Even when the sun is shining at their usual time for opening, do some keep their flowers shut, if rain be impending; hence they become prognostics of weather. This is said of the pimpernel.

"Before rain, and particularly before great falls of snow in winter, do we find dogs particularly dull; their ears become inflamed, and they lay drowsily before the fire all day, and can hardly be roused. Swine seem uneasy in windy weather, and show symptoms of restlessness even before the wind begins to blow, by running about and squeaking, with a peculiar tossing up of the head."

The following plan for a meteorological journal, for its truly scientific arrangement and perspicuity of plan, excells any we have yet seen:—

"The journal should consist of sixteen columns. The first column should contain the day of the month, second the hour of observation, which ought to be made at least three times a day, if possible, viz. nine o'clock in the morning, noon, and midnight. Those who are able to employ a person expressly to keep the register, should make five more observations, viz. at sunrise, being the coldest time, at two p. m., and at two in the morning, because the crisis of symptoms of diseases with daily periods often happens at these times; at six p. m. because there is likewise, in many cases, an exacerbation of symptoms about this time. Though I have observed this period to fluctuate, according to the hour of dinner, having been established, I believe, by the exertion of digestion, yet it afterwards goes on periodically, independent of eating. It is to be noted, that nine a. m., noon, and six p. m., are also barometrical periods. The third column should contain the barometer; an R or an F should be placed after the numerical denotation, to signify either *rising* (if the mercury have a convex surface) or *falling*, (if with a concave top). This will lead us to a knowledge of the time when the maximum and minimum of the day happen. The fourth column, the thermometer. In particularly hot or cold weather, the maximum of the day, and the minimum of the night, might be taken with a Six's, or self-marking thermometer, in case we should not have seen it at its extreme points. This might be added in a note. The fifth column, the hygrometer: Saussure's and De Luc's are the best. The sixth column, the evaporation (by a vapour-gauge) in twenty-four hours, taken from nine to nine o'clock every morning. The seventh column, the rain fallen, (by a rain-gauge). The eighth column, the atmospherical electrometer. The ninth column, the electroscope of De Luc. The tenth column, the direction of the wind, (by a weathercock): eleventh column, its force, (by an anemometer). The twelfth column, the modifications of clouds, or nepheological journal.

"The thirteenth column should contain the general remarks on the weather: occasional phenomena, as halos, meteors, the calendar of Flora, &c. &c. The fourteenth column, the diseases in particular: fifteenth column, the periods of irritability: and the sixteenth column, the place of the moon.

"Various miscellaneous notes might be added; as the appearance of migratory birds, the diseases of animals, &c. &c. The journals, kept in different places, and published collectively, like the Meteorological Register of the Palatine Society, would be useful and interesting."

Mr. F. cites a curious instance of the periodical effects of insanity, for so it must certainly be considered, whether occasioned by atmospheric attraction, or by a peculiar formation of the intellectual organs:—

"I know a person who refused to ascend with me a dangerous precipice, saying, that at that period he could not trust himself, on account of a propensity, which he had had from his boyhood, to throw himself down from high places. He would have willingly gone in a few days' time without fear."

We cannot but think, that if these periodical *exacerbations* of the disorder were carefully noted down by the medical attendants of mad-houses, much benefit would generally accrue, not only to the patients under their immediate care, but also to society in general. These establishments, however, as a late investigation before a Committee of the House of Commons has fully proved, have rather been places of torment, where the grossest abuses have been tolerated, than tender nurseries for the cure of one of the heaviest calamities that can befal human nature.

Yet, even on the slightest view, and without these observations of Mr. Forster, the thinking mind will naturally form a theory similar to that which the present volume inculcates. Man is composed of such sympathizing materials, that although certain sounds yield him delight, or sooth his passions, there are others again which awaken those passions into frenzy, and convert that pleasure into madness. When in this state, is it surprising if he becomes more sensitive; for what would scarcely engage his attention while his reason was

unimpaired, now gives to him the most severe of mental and bodily tortures.

Yet though these reflections almost unconsciously connect themselves with our ideas of the mixed nature of man, we can do no more; unaided by science, it becomes impossible to avert the effects of a paroxsym of insanity, or even to soothe its pangs: but when the art of healing is joined to philosophical remark, it supports the doctrine asserted, and uses its discoveries for the most beneficial purposes. As to effect these is the principal purport of Mr. F.'s volume, it has the philanthropy of its author, and the relief of mankind, to recommend it to the notice of the world.

Poems. By an Amateur. Elephant 8vo. pp. 144. 1818.

We have several reasons for endeavouring to attract the attention of our readers to the volume before us. In the first place, it professes to be written by an Amateur; an appellative which, somewhat unfortunately, reminded us of Romeo Coates, Esq., the amateur actor; of certain full-grown masters and misses, who are occasionally guilty of most unmerciful attacks upon our auricular organs; and of those "gemmen of the fancy" whose exploits are frequently displayed, with much scientific skill and effect, in the colossal columns of our diurnal publications. Our amateur poet, however, seems to belong to a species very different from any of these. In the homely language of old John Bunyan, he says—

> "Neither did I but vacant seasons spend
> In this my scribble; nor did I intend
> But to divert myself in doing this
> From worser thoughts."

Amongst our other reasons for noticing this volume are the following:—it is printed in ELEPHANT octavo! upon paper which, from its substance, appears calculated to defy the ravages of time: its price is one guinea! which is really "a deal of money in these hard times:" and, further, as the number printed was sufficient only to supply subscribers, its circulation is confined; and, consequently, whatever extracts we may be induced to offer to our readers, will, to the greater part of them, possess the charm of novelty. Perhaps the best and most satisfactory reason is, that the volume, which consists almost entirely of short pieces, contains some very good poetry. It is thus neatly and modestly dedicated—"To Lieut.-Colonel Sir Augustus S. Frazer, K.C.B. and F.R.S. commanding the royal horse artillery, in France:"—

> "The din of arms hath ceas'd:—and as of yore
> The knight, returning from war's wild uproar,
> Doff'd his plum'd helm, and, in the banner'd hall
> Hanging his broad shield on the blazon'd wall,
> Exchang'd, well pleas'd, the trumpet's hoarser bray
> For the old minstrel's rude and simple lay;—
> Thus could I wish that poetry of mine
> Might lend a charm to vacant hours of thine.
> And though, unlike the harper's loftier song,
> Mine win no plaudits from a listening throng;
> It hath not flow'd in vain, if it beguile
> Thee of one weary hour, or EMMA of one smile."

The subjoined stanzas form the close of an address to Buonaparte, at St. Helena, under the designation of "the Gallic Eagle:"—

> "Instead of the trumpet's sound,
> Sea-birds are shrieking;—
> Hoarse on the rampart's bound
> Billows are breaking.
>
> "The standards which led thee,
> Are trampled and torn now;
> The flatteries which fed thee,
> Are turn'd into dust now.
>
> "For ensigns unfurling,
> Like sunbeams in brightness;
> Are crested waves curling,
> Like snow-wreaths in whiteness.
>
> "No sycophants rock thee
> With dreams of dominion;
> But rude tempests mock thee,
> And ruffle thy pinion.
>
> "Thy last flight is taken,
> Hope leaves thee for ever;
> And victory shall waken
> Thy proud spirit,—never!"

A fairer estimate of our author's powers may, however, be formed from a perusal of the following entire piece:—

"THE SOLITARY TOMB.

> "Not a leaf of the tree which stood near me was stirr'd,
> Though a breath might have mov'd it so lightly;
> Not a farewell note from a sweet singing bird,
> Bade adieu to the sun-setting brightly.
>
> "The sky was cloudless and calm, except
> In the west where the sun was descending;
> And there the rich tints of the rainbow slept
> As his beams with their beauty were blending.
>
> "And the evening star, with its ray so clear,
> So tremulous, soft, and tender,
> Had lit up its lamp, and shot down from its sphere
> Its dewy, delightful splendor.
>
> "And I stood, all alone, on that gentle hill,
> With a landscape so lovely before me;
> And its spirit and tone, so serene and still,
> Seem'd casting its mantle o'er me.
>
> "Far off was the Deben, whose briny flood
> By its winding banks was weeping;
> And just at the foot of the hill where I stood,
> The dead in their damp graves were sleeping.
>
> "How lonely and lovely their resting place seem'd!
> An enclosure which care could not enter:—
> And how sweetly the grey lights of evening gleam'd
> On the solitary tomb in its centre!
>
> "When at morn, or at eve, I have wander'd near,
> And in various lights have view'd it;
> With what different forms, unto friendship dear,
> Hath the magic of fancy endued it.
>
> "Sometimes it hath seem'd like a lonely sail,
> A white spot on the emerald billow;
> Sometimes like a lamb, in a low grassy vale,
> Stretch'd in peace on its verdant pillow.
>
> "But no image of gloom, or of care, or strife,
> Hath it ever given birth to, one minute;
> For lamented in death, as beloved in life,
> Was he, who now slumbers within it.
>
> "He was one who, in youth, on the stormy seas,
> Was a far and a fearless ranger;
> Who, borne on the billow, and blown by the breeze,
> Had deem'd lightly of death or of danger.
>
> "Yet in this rude school had his heart still kept
> All the freshness of gentlest feeling;
> Nor in woman's warm eye hath a tear ever slept,
> More of softness and kindness revealing.
>
> "And here, when the bustle of youth was past,
> He lived;—and he loved;—and he died too;—
> O! why was affection, which death could outlast,
> A more lengthen'd enjoyment denied to?
>
> "But here he slumbers! and many there are
> Who love that lone tomb, and revere it;—
> And one far off, who, like eve's dewy star,
> Though at distance, in fancy dwells near it."

The poetical reader cannot fail to remark, that these lines possess some novelty of versification; and, what is of more importance, much sweet and delicate pathos, combined with chaste and beautiful imagery. They, who can read them without interest, must, we think, be strangely deficient in taste and feeling. From these stanzas, and from several other pieces in the volume, we feel ourselves justified in believing the writer to be influenced by the best and kindest affections of the heart.

Original Correspondence.

REMARKABLE EPITAPHS, THE BIBLE, AND THE WELSH LANGUAGE.

To the Editor of the Literary Journal.

SIR,—Permit me to add the following epitaphs, which I transcribed from the respective tomb-stones, to those furnished by your correspondent, P. W., in your 14th Number. ORDOVEX.

In Winchester churchyard:—

> Here sleeps in peace a Hampshire grenadier,
> Who caught his death by drinking cold small beer:
> Soldiers, beware from his untimely fall,
> And, when you're hot, drink strong, or none at all.

In Lymington churchyard:—

> Live well, die never:
> Die well, live for ever.

In Greenwich churchyard:—

ON TWO YOUNG CHILDREN.

> Ere sin could blight, or sorrow fade,
> Death came with friendly care.
> The op'ning buds to Heav'n convey'd,
> And bade them blossom there.

The following variation of the last, if you think it would not spoil the beauty of its original by appearing so near it, is much at your service:—

> The tender buds are fallen, to rise,
> And ripen, in their native skies.

In the "Historical Narration of the Bible," inserted in your last Number, it is observed, at the close, that "the Bible is divided into two parts, the Old and the New. In the Old is contained the law and the prophets." It would have been more correct, I believe, to have said, that the Old Testament contained the law, the prophets, and *psalms*; or, as the Jews called them, "*chetubim*."

This was, undoubtedly, the ancient division of the Canon of Scripture; I mean of those books which were considered to be of divine inspiration. I could enlarge upon this point, but it is, at present, by no means my wish; my only object being to rectify a slight error, which, I have no doubt, was merely an oversight of the intelligent writer of the "Narration."

You will take it for granted, I fear, that I am about to assume the office of censor-general of your work; but as you have, on more than one occasion, invited your correspondents to point out any mistakes that may inadvertently creep into it, I plead that invitation as my excuse for bringing to your notice the following, as well as the one to which I have already adverted.

In a note upon the "Letters from North Wales," p. 213, "Dolgelly" is said to be pronounced "Dolgethly;" and it is added, that "when a second l follows the first in Welsh, or British words, the first sounds as th." Now I beg, in the first place, to observe, from a pretty accurate knowledge of the Welsh tongue, that the two *ll*, here alluded to form, in fact, but *one* letter, and one which is peculiar to this language. I beg also to observe, that, although your correspondent has given as correct an idea of the sound of this singular letter as was, perhaps, possible to an English *reader;* yet he is far from being accurate, there being in reality, in the proper pronunciation of the British "ll," no sound whatever of the letter "t." Dr. Walters, an eminent Welsh scholar, in his "Dissertation on the Welsh Language," published in 1771, says, "Ll is L strongly aspirated, and can be represented in English only by Lh, or Llh." I do not think, however, that he has been at all more successful than your corresondent in his attempt to explain the sound, except that he omits the "t." For he seems to me to be in error, in presuming too much on the capabilities of an Englishman's organs for giving the proper aspirate to the L. Mr. Richards, another Welsh writer, and, as well as the former, the author of a dictionary of his native tongue, observes, that this letter "has a sound peculiar to the Welsh, and is pronounced by fixing the tip of the tongue to the roof of the mouth, and breathing forcibly through the jaw-teeth on both sides, but more on the right." Whether this explanation may have the effect of conveying a more intelligible notion of the matter to your English readers or not, I cannot pretend to determine; but I can say for myself, that it would have thoroughly deterred me from attempting to pronounce the letter, if I had ever stood in need of any direction. I will merely add, that I have never known an Englishman who had attained the proper pronunciation of this letter, or of the Welsh "ch;" and I think it would be impossible to describe the sound of either in writing.

Your correspondent, in the latter part of his letter, takes notice of the service being performed at Dolgelly in Welsh, which, he says, "to Saxon ears must sound barbarous enough." I hope it was not his intention, in this expression, to convey any contemptuous opinion of the language: but if it was, I could refer him to several eminent writers, and those not merely Welsh, who would soon remove a prejudice, which I know to be not uncommon in this respect. At present I will content myself with asserting, that few, if any, languages, ancient or modern, surpass the British in the propriety, the beauty, and the copiousness of its expression.

July 1, 1818. ORDOVEX.

MERCANTILE ARITHMETIC.

To the Editor of the Literary Journal.

SIR,—It is well known that several books have been published by various authors, on the principle of a "ready reckoner," for the information of such manufacturers, merchants, &c., who allow a certain rate per cent discount to those who sell their goods; showing what sum must be added to the prime cost, to produce a profit of a certain rate per cent ultimately to themselves: but the rule by which such questions are to be answered I never met with; and I believe I may venture to say, that all the popular Arithmetics of the present day, and many of those published years ago, have been searched for such a rule in vain. I am led to this conclusion by having, for many years past, been in the habit of frequently conversing with persons who have possessed considerable arithmetical knowledge, and have oftentimes put questions to them on this subject, but have never had the satisfaction of receiving an answer to any degree of exactness.

Now, supposing this rule to be such as arithmeticians would insert among those of profit and loss, perhaps the following title and description might not be unsuitable.

To find a selling price to any given cost price, that will produce a proposed rate per cent profit, after allowing a proposed rate per cent discount.

Rule.—As £100 less, the proposed rate per cent discount, is to £100 more, the proposed rate per cent profit; so is the cost price given to the selling price required.

Example.—Suppose I have a quantity of goods which cost me £750, in materials and labour, what must I sell them for that I may gain 10 per cent profit by them, after allowing my purchaser 25 per cent discount?

£100 — 25 the proposed rate per cent discount = 75.

100 + 10 the proposed rate per cent profit = 100.

Then, as £75 : 110 :: 750 : £1100 the answer required.

For £750 + 75 (the 10 per cent profit) = £825.

And £1100 — 275 (the 25 per cent discount) = £825.

Thinking that the above might not be unacceptable to many of your readers, and a desire to give publicity to any useful rule, is the cause of my troubling you with it.

I am, sir,
Your obedient servant,

June 27, 1818. W. F.

FEMALE OCCUPATIONS.

To the Editor of the Literary Journal.

SIR,—Your correspondent A, in your 14th Number, p. 220, has taken a very confined and partial view of "modern female occupations," by recognizing but two classes of females — wives and daughters. I am under the necessity of confessing that I am an *old maid*, through having had discretion enough to reason every case with tenacious caution, that proposed a change of my condition, weighing scrupulously the moral advantage or disadvantage of a change: and thus deliberating, have remained at liberty to employ my time and talents accordant with my education, and consequent notions of utility. Society, Mr. Editor, might be very fairly compared to the various materials that fill the circle of your favourite subject, the "Caleidoscope," and its various changes by revolutions to the operations of time; all producing beauty after beauty, in endless succession: *each particle* performing to perfection the office assigned for the whole effect—

"That each may fill the circle mark'd by heaven,"

occurs to my memory from the *present* "unfashionable" poet Pope, as a conclusion of both the subject and its simile. I hope, sir, the following will enlarge and enlighten the ideas of the meddler with female occupations, and induce him to approve the laudable endeavours of *old maids* and *forsaken* wives to solace their leisure, by active endeavours to improve the morals of the rising generation, that their nieces and daughters may be enabled to make choice of husbands, without departing from that prudent forecast which is absolutely (confessed by general consent) necessary to render the condition of a wife tolerable. It was here my intention to enumerate the various profligacies of the males in the present age; but as they are most likely well known to Mr. A., I shall briefly ask him whether the many, many well-inclined females, who do not fall under the two characters he has assigned to the female world, are not commendable in endeavouring to do all the good she *can*, although that might not have been the fashion of the shy and retiring age of females? KITTY SCRUPLE.

June 28, 1818.

ON THE "FEMALE REQUISITES."

To the Editor of the Literary Journal.

SIR,—I am one of those neglected, I nearly said unfortunate, lasses who, not having a portion, are obliged to remain in a state of celibacy; but not, nevertheless, deficient in very many of the "*requisites*" which, with some surprise, I perused in your Journal of the 14th instant*, and published by no less a personage than "An Old Bachelor." I really imagine, sir, this is merely designed as an introduction to an advertisement for a *young wife;* or, which I conceive to be equivalent, a *nurse.* This analytical old gentleman may blazon forth to the world all the perfections which human nature is capable of possessing, and style them "requisites;" but I am convinced a reasonable man would think a female endowed with a portion of them to be sufficient, however desirable it might be to find one who is in possession of the whole, which, I must add, seems to me a case extremely rare: but this particular old gentleman being ashamed of remaining longer in a state of "single blessedness," and by way of apology for having been so fastidious in his *young* days, tells us at last what is the reason of

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* See LITERARY JOURNAL, No. 12.

his being what he is, that he has been looking for perfection, and because his greediness could not procure all he wanted, he would have none at all. But, sir, I do not imagine those qualifications to be absolutely necessary: there is one attraction greater and much more powerful than all the rest: ask the majority of young men of the present day what are the "requisites" for a wife, they, without hesitation, will answer *money*, or, as your venerable correspondent terms it, "*wealth*," all other qualities sink before that omnipotent word, and dwindle to secondary considerations; even the old gentleman himself cannot forget his original ideas upon the subject, but must insert what I am afraid is the sole cause of his being as he subscribes himself; indeed, "money" is generally described as a "sine quâ non." There is very little chance of a girl procuring a husband, unless her father happens to be a Crœsus: in that case, there will be more suitors than Penelope had. For heaven sake, Mr. Editor, exert your influence, and expose the folly of such proceedings. It is not in the power of gold, nor riches of any magnitude, to procure that domestic felicity which is the usual companion of a pure and disinterested affection: indeed, what is at present considered a primary, should be quite a minor consideration. In hopes, sir, that you will stand our champion, and endeavour to overturn such erroneous opinions,

I subscribe myself

Your very obedient humble servant,

June 17th. SARAH SINGLE.

P. S.—Permit me, sir, to state what I conceive to be the ingredients of that composition, usually called "an old bachelor," especially as he has so many "requisites" for us:—

Avaricious	Finical	Peremptory
Affected	Frivolous	Severe
Capricious	Impatient	Sour
Churlish	Inquisitive	Suspicious
Conceited	Obstinate	Vapourish
Disagreeable	Opinionated	Unaccountable
Fastidious	Peevish	Whimsical

S. S.

CHANGES OF THE CALEIDOSCOPE.

To the Editor of the Literary Journal.

SIR,—Your three Correspondents on the Changes of the Caleidoscope strongly remind me of the fable of the *Chamelion*, in which all were in some measure right, and yet all to a certain degree were wrong. To demonstrate this apparent paradox, it will be necessary, like Æsop's traveller, to go over the claims of your respective Correspondents; and first one by whom, I presume, must be understood our three lettered friend R. F. N. who commences with a marvellous account of the number of years necessary for going through the whole number of changes capable of being made by twenty pieces of glass, without any reference either to the shape of the pieces or the method of making the calculation. Then comes B. D. who apparently with the best possible motives, is intent only on illustrating the arguments of the infallible R. F. N., and who shows, that without a due regard to the shape of the objects, the whole calculation must inevitably fall to the ground. He also at the same time gently hints, that if there was either meaning or merit in R. F. N.'s arguments, they rather belonged to *Cocker* than to himself. P. W., who comes next in order, and who seems to have more of "method in his madness" than either of the preceding writers, would no doubt have written much better if he had considered that even the combinations of these *parts* of objects, (if regularly formed,) would be as uniform in appearance, and as easily calculated upon, as is the rotative motion of the celestial bodies. But if one or more of these pieces differed in size from the rest, their appearance would be retarded or accelerated; but like the wandering comet, they would eventually return to the same precise point from whence they set out.

Begging your pardon for employing so much of your time, and so large a space in your valuable Journal, on a subject from which so little edification is likely to accrue, I shall now revert to R. F. N., who certainly misconceives the meaning of a spherical body, when he selects a pin as an illustration of its rotative motion. But, to write down to the comprehension of this *scientific Correspondent*, I would recommend his placing a common marble in the Caleidoscope, and marking the precise point from whence it sets out: he will find, on again arriving at the same point, that the figure formed by the instrument will remain unaltered.

R. F. N. forgets that the whole of his arguments, (if arguments they can be called,) rather go to prove the fallacy of his own system, than the attempt at illustrating of it, by B D.; "the multiplying all the terms of the series of numbers continually together" being, in fact, the only mode of calculating the number of changes capable of being made by a Caleidoscope, with spherical objects: and where the shape of the object is not attended to, no calculation can possibly be made. Yours, &c.

ARBITER.

HISTORY OF THE INVENTION OF DR. BREWSTER'S CALEIDOSCOPE.

(Concluded from our last, p. 231.)

THE propositions in Harris's Optics relate, like Professor Wood's, merely to the multiplication and circular arrangement of the apertures or sectors formed by the inclined mirrors, and to the progress of a ray of light reflected between two inclined or parallel mirrors; and no allusion whatever is made, in the propositions themselves, to any instrument. In the proposition respecting the multiplication of the sectors, the eye of the observer is never once mentioned, and the proposition is true if the eye has an infinite number of positions; whereas, in the Caleidoscope, the eye can only have one position. In the other proposition, (Prop. XVII.) respecting the progress of the rays, the eye and the object are actually stated to be placed *between the reflectors;* and even if the eye had been placed without the reflectors, as in the Caleidoscope, the position assigned it, at a great distance from the angular point, is a demonstration that Harris was *entirely ignorant of the positions of symmetry either for the object or the eye*, and could not have combined two reflectors so as to form a Caleidoscope for producing beautiful or symmetrical forms. The *only practical part* of Harris's propositions is the 5th and 6th scholia to Prop. XVII. In the 5th scholium he proposes a sort of catoptric box or cistula, known long before his time, composed of four mirrors, arranged in a most unscientific manner, and containing opaque objects *between the speculums.* "Whatever they are," says he, when speaking of the objects, "the upright figures between the speculums should be slender, and not too many in number, otherwise they will too much *obstruct the reflected rays from coming to the eye.*" This shows, in a most decisive manner, that Harris knew nothing of the Caleidoscope, and that he has not even improved the common catoptric cistula, which had been known long before. The principle of inversion, and the positions of symmetry, were entirely unknown to him. In the 6th scholium, he speaks of rooms lined with looking-glasses, and of luminous amphitheatres, which, as the Editor of the LITERARY JOURNAL observes, have been described and figured by all the old writers on optics*.

The persons who have pretended to compare Dr. Brewster's Caleidoscope with the combinations of plain mirrors described by preceding authors, have not only been utterly unacquainted with the principles of optics, but have not been at the trouble either of understanding the principles on which the patent Caleidoscope is constructed, or of examining the construction of the instrument itself. Because it contains two plain mirrors, they infer that it must be the same as every other instrument that contains two plain mirrors, and hence the same persons would, by a similar process of reasoning, have concluded that a telescope is a microscope, or that a pair of spectacles with a double lens is the same as a telescope or a microscope, because all these instruments contain two lenses. An astronomical telescope differs from a compound microscope only in having the lenses placed at different distances. The progress of the rays is exactly the same in both these instruments, and the effect in both is produced by the enlargement of the angle subtended by the object. Yet surely there is no person so senseless as to deny, that he who first combined two lenses in such a manner as to discover the mountains of the moon, the satellites of Jupiter and Saturn, and all the wonders of the system of the universe, was the author of an original invention. He who produces effects which were never produced before, even by means which have been long known, is unquestionably an original inventor; and upon this principle alone can the telescope be considered as an invention different from the microscope. In the case of the Caleidoscope, the originality of the invention is far more striking. Every person admits that effects are produced by Dr. Brewster's instrument, of which no conception could have been previously formed.

All those who saw it, acknowledged that

* The reader is requested to examine carefully the propositions in Harris's Optics, which he will find reprinted in the LITERARY JOURNAL, No. 10. He will then be convinced, that Harris placed both the eye and the object between the mirrors, an arrangement which was known one hundred years before his time.

they had never seen any thing resembling it before; and those very persons who had been possessors of Bradley's instrument, who had read Harris's Optics, and who had used other combinations of plain mirrors, never supposed for a moment, that the pleasure which they derived from the Caleidoscope had any relation to the effects described by these authors.

No proof of the originality of the Caleidoscope could be stronger than the sensation which it created in London and Paris. In the memory of man, no invention, and no work, whether addressed to the imagination or to the understanding, ever produced such an effect. A universal mania for the instrument seized all classes, from the lowest to the highest, from the most ignorant to the most learned; and every person not only felt, but expressed the feeling, that a new pleasure had been added to their existence.

If such an instrument had ever been known before, a similar sensation must have been excited, and it would not have been left to the ingenuity of the half learned and the half honest to search for the skeleton of the invention among the rubbish of the 16th and 17th centuries.

The individuals who have been most eager in this search, did not, perhaps, calculate the degree of mischief which they have done to those who have been led, upon their authority, to encroach upon the rights of others, and thus subject themselves to very serious consequences. The delay which has taken place in commencing legal proceedings, has not arisen from any doubt of the complete originality of the Caleidoscope, and of the defensibility of the patent. As soon as the patentee has made himself acquainted with the circumstance of the individuals who have invaded his patent, with the channels through which they have exported their instruments, and with the amount of the damage which they have done, he will seek for that redress which the law never fails to afford in cases of notorious and unprovoked piracy. We are well assured, that it never was the intention or the wish of Dr. Brewster to interfere with the operations of those poor individuals who have gained a livelihood from the manufacture of Caleidoscopes. We know that it will always be a source, of no inconsiderable gratification to him, that he has given employment to thousands of persons, whom the pressure of the times had driven into indigence; and even if a decision in favour of his patent were given, he would never think of enforcing it, excepting against that class of opulent pirates who had been actuated by no other motive but the exorbitant love of gain, in wantonly encroaching upon the property of another.

The Patent Caleidoscopes are now made in London, under Dr. Brewster's sanction, by Messrs. P. and G. Dollond, W. and S. Jones, Mr. R. B. Bate, Messrs. Thomas Harris and Son, Mr. Bancks, Mr. Berge, Mr. Thomas Jones, Mr. Blunt, Mr. Schmalcalder, Messrs. Watkins and Hill, and Mr. Smith. An account of the different forms in which these ingenious opticians have fitted up the Caleidoscope, and of the new contrivances by which they have given it additional value, will be given in Dr. Brewster's Treatise on the Caleidoscope, now in the press. The public will see, from the examination of these instruments, how much they have been imposed upon by spurious imitations, sold at the most exorbitant prices, and made by individuals entirely ignorant, not only of the principles and construction of the instrument, but of the method of using it.

BIOGRAPHICAL AND LITERARY MEMOIR OF HENRY WILLIAM WEBER, Esq.

THE LITERARY PART
BY WALTER SCOTT, Esq.

To the Editor of the Literary Journal.

SIR,—I enclose a slight sketch of the life and literary pursuits of a near and dear relation, the late Mr. Henry Weber. I should think it little entitled to your attention, were it not that so much as relates to Mr. Weber's literary life has come from the distinguished pen of Mr. Walter Scott, who has here kindly added to the many marks of friendship conferred upon the deceased during his lifetime, by the generous labour of recording the few performances that were achieved during a life so prematurely ended.

I am, &c. M. D. F.

July 2, 1818.

"Rich was his mind in every art divine;
And through the paths of science had he walk'd,
The votary of wisdom."

Scarce had his fame been whisper'd round,
Before its shrill and mournful sound
Was whistling o'er his tomb;
Scarce did the laurel 'gin to grow
Around his early honour'd brow,
Before its grateful bloom
Was chang'd to cypress sear and brown,
Whose garlands mock the head they crown.
NEELE.

As a Character of some literary publicity, a short account of the late Mr. Henry Weber may not be deemed unacceptable. The life of an amiable individual, who spent his youth in the acquirement of almost every branch of science, and at last fell an early sacrifice to the extreme mental labours he imposed upon himself, must of itself be an object of considerable interest to the public: as to the private friends of such a man, a concise narrative of one so early lost, and so justly valued, will doubtless afford some gratification, especially when, as in the present instance, personal affairs were so seldom the topic of conversation, and an almost total disregard of every thing relating to self, with an endless curiosity on subjects of information, marked the character.

Henry William Weber was born at St. Petersburgh, the 22d of September, 1783, being the second son of Henry William Weber, Esq., an opulent merchant in that city, and a native of Neustadt, in Westphalia. He married an English lady of one of the most ancient private families in Great Britain, a descendant of the Fosters of Bamborough Castle, in Northumberland, whose estates "were forfeited by Thomas Foster, of Ethelstone, engaged in the rebellion of 1715; and they were afterwards purchased by his uncle, Lord Crewe, Bishop of Durham, and by him bequeathed for many benevolent purposes." Since then the Foster family is chiefly traced in Jamaica.

The fluctuating speculations and losses of a foreign merchant, did not ensure ultimate and permanent wealth to the family of Mr. Weber; for after his death, which happened in 1786, it was discovered, that his widow's marriage-settlement was nearly all that remained entirely their own. General Baranoff, a gentleman distinguished in the Russian army, offered to procure cadetships for the two infant sons; by which means they would have arisen to considerable military rank during their minority; but this was declined by their mother, who felt herself in a land of strangers, and unconnected by the ties of consanguinity with any person in the empire. She resolved to remove her family to Saxony, where education was attainable, and where relations anxiously invited her.

There was from earliest childhood a singularity of disposition observable in the young Henry; his premature application, the mildness of his demeanour, and acute observation, attracted the notice, and fixed the regard, of his superiors in age and wisdom. He loved study, and could scarcely be withheld from acquiring it by a devotion considered injurious to his health and spirits, especially as his constitution was never very robust. If he joined in the gambols and recreations of childhood, it was sparingly, and he soon retired to amuse his mind with a book, map, or pencil. Thus he laid a solid foundation of knowledge at a tender age; and having surmounted the rudiments so soon, advanced rapidly on the road of learning. His pursuits were so diversified, his memory so retentive, and his judgment so accurate, that he could in a moment decide the altitude of a mountain, the distances of the most remote and obscure places on the globe, their population, the effects and causes of natural philosophy, a false note in music, an error in perspective, or an historical fact; yet unambitious, timid, and reserved, he

generally sheltered himself in obscurity and silent remark.

Being a boy of reflection, the youthful Henry was desired to fix upon and select a seminary for his future education amongst several that were distinguished in that part of Germany, and considered distinctly appropriate to the prosecution of different pursuits. His choice fell upon Uist, remotely situated amidst Sombre, and extensive forests of fir, the funereal solemnity of which was peculiarly calculated to strengthen habits of solitude The soil was sandy, and exhibited scanty vegetation; every object depressed gaiety, and encouraged abstracted study.

The lower classes of villagers being Vandals, (a people estranged by customs, dress, and language, from the rest of their countrymen,) prevented the possibility of even as much intercourse and dealing with the students, as may otherwise take place in similar situations. The Vandals are as distinct from other Germans, though they live amongst them, as gipsies are in different counties of Europe from the general population: they neither associate, intermarry, seek society or communion with their nearest neighbours, but remain stationary, industrious, and peaceable. In this secluded spot had been established an institution for learning, to which the highest families in Saxony and Silesia entrusted the tuition of their sons. It was limited to twenty, and Henry was at that time the only pupil who did not boast some claim to nobility. Many of his cotemporaries have, since that period, figured in the cabinet, the field, or the literary world; several of them have most unhappily distinguished themselves by an untimely end, perhaps the result of the fostered melancholy, and meditating seclusion, in which their minds formed a standard of individual and eccentric opinion. The faith of Luther prevailed in the school; and Mr. Weber, upon principle, chose to enrol himself amongst his followers by public confirmation.

The arts were cultivated very particularly at Uist; and there are few instances can be adduced of an unskilful musician, or a paltry painter, having been educated there. Henry now imbibed an insatiable love of reading. Philosophy, abstruse theology, the infatuating and patriotic authors of Germany, the metaphysical and dramatical works of the day, the more dry and endless classics, and modern linguists, mineralogists, mathematicians, and geographers, were all the objects of Henry's pursuit. He manifested considerable facility in the acquisition of languages, though not with that astonishing quickness with which he afterwards made himself master of them. He was here inspired with all the ardour and national enthusiasm which marks the youths of Germany for their *Fatherland*, as Lord Byron has literally translated and used it in his emphatic language. As such, though not his *native land*, Mr. Weber ever preserved a sincere attachment to that country of romance, research, and literature.

At the age of fourteen, Mr. Weber was removed to England, and it became indispensably necessary to fix upon a profession: the medical one appeared most eligible, and though perhaps reluctantly, he consented to relinquish more general studies, and to pursue physic. He underwent the usual steps of preparation, was pupil to a national infirmary, and placed with a gentleman of celebrity in the profession. The theoretical part was easily acquired by Mr. Weber; he spared no pains to make himself master of the subject, employing his pen and pencil to perpetuate his observations in anatomy and surgery; but he imbibed an insurmountable abhorrence to the practice; neither did his nervous system accord with the necessary firmness and resolution of an operator. He spent a winter in attending the lectures in Edinburgh, and then embarked to complete his medical studies in Germany. This step was doubtless accelerated by his hankering desire to revisit the scenes of his youth. At the University of Jena he ostensibly prosecuted the objects of his profession, but was not unmindful of his former pursuits: he indulged in general reading of every denomination, and collected a vast stock of information and books relating to the ancient state of literature in Germany, most of which he was unfortunately deprived of by the sudden arrival of the French army; when Buonaparte, exasperated at finding the riotous part of the students engaged in celebrating his previous defeat, by publicly singing a political composition in the market-place, gave their property to the plunder of the soldiery, and ordered them to leave the town in a certain number of hours, each provided with a gulden, (two shillings). Mr. Weber shared the same fate, and lost his supply of money. An offer was made to him to enter the French army in the capacity of a surgeon, which he on some accounts felt strongly inclined to accept; yet recollecting that he could never return to England again during the war; and the march of the troops to Poland, where so much disease raged at that period; his prudence triumphed over adventurous inclination, and he marched off, a pedestrian, and nearly pennyless traveller, in search of some worthy friends who dwelt on the banks of the Elbe, near Dessan: here the young wanderer was received with the generous welcome and open-armed hospitality of true German hearts, and dwelt in security, friendship, and affluence, for some months. Several of Buonaparte's favourite generals were quartered in the house, and he has often spoken of that time as one of the "greenest spots on memory's waste."

Under the luxuriant boughs of a blooming cherry-tree these enemies by birth, these opposite characters by education and profession, would enjoy the still serenity of a German evening, supping in cheerful harmony, close to the banks of the majestic Elbe, the picturesque palace of Barby glowing in the moonlight, whilst the choir of nightingales, which peopled the groves on the opposite shore, serenaded the gay scene of festivity, occasionally relieved by the mysterious notes of the silver-toned harmonica, breathing its spiritual sounds, and whilst concealed in a knoll of weeping birch-trees, till these new friends joined in one of the national German songs by Gothe or Burger. Mr. Weber possessed a most melodious tenor-voice, modulated with taste, and rich in impressive feeling. He always sang to the heart, and preferred the German composers. As a piano-forte player, he also was thoroughly acquainted with the science, and possessed considerable execution.

His abrupt retreat from the university deprived Mr. Weber of the diploma he was on the point of obtaining, though the professors afforded him the most honourable testimonies of merit and assiduity. To remedy this omission, another season at Edinburgh was decided upon, though he evidently biassed his inclination by preparing for the practice of his profession. During this period, he formed an acquaintance with Mr. W. S., which he considered to the end of his days as the greatest acquisition he ever made. Elated by the flattering notice of so eminent an individual, and by a character of so much private excellence, who perceived and valued the extensive range of those acquirements, which

were scarcely understood by many persons, Mr. Weber indulged in the joyful anticipation of supporting himself by literature alone, without the necessity of practising a profession for which he felt himself unfit, and in which he never expected to arrive at any distinction.

His medical books were consigned to the shelf; and he experienced the delight of moving in the first literary circles: emancipated from a pursuit that was burthensome, and tasting the sweets of independence, he no longer needed the assistance of his maternal parent, but found all his very moderate wishes gratified by the emolument of his labours. This was certainly the happiest period of Mr. Weber's existence; every hour brought either agreeable employment, or the society of those he would have selected. In his family he was ever a considerate and cheerful addition; the pride of his mother, and the object of every one's undisguised and sincere affection.

Time suffers Hope to dance awhile,
Nursing the fondling's fatal smile,
That tears may faster flow;
And only bids fair merit bloom,
At last to blast it in the tomb.

About this time Mr. Weber first became an editor: but respecting his literary labours, the assistance of an abler biographer has fortunately been obtained, and therefore they will not be infringed upon in this memoir. Antiquities became more and more the objects of Mr. Weber's attention; and it has often excited surprise, that so young a man and a foreigner should arrive at such an intimate acquaintance with ancient British literature. The writer of this narrative was once present when an epistolary correspondent of Mr. Weber's was announced, though as yet personally unacquainted; the mind of the stranger had figured to itself a portrait of the very elaborate erudite he was about to see. On his entrance, Mr. Weber, who had a singularly youthful aspect and manner, advanced respectfully to meet him: the visitor, an eccentric and ancient man, seemed disappointed, and expressed a wish to see the *father* of Mr. Weber the antiquary, with whom he had corresponded. There was something remarkably droll in the eclaircissement, when this gentleman perceived his mistake, and found that the slight youth before him was the identical antiquary.

The rapidity with which Mr. Weber acquired languages deserves remark: in the course of one year, besides his other numerous avocations, he studied Italian, Portugueze, and Spanish, and arrived at sufficient perfection in each to correct for the press. He was, besides, master of the usual classical languages, of English, German, French, Dutch, Swedish, and some Russian. He was ready with his pencil, quick and indefatigable in the execution of his drawings, which were of a peculiar sort, and particularly suitable for engravings.

(To be concluded in our next.)

LETTERS FROM NORTH WALES.

LETTER II.

To C. W. Esq.

Barmouth, 1st August, 1817.

Dear W.—I have now the pleasure of addressing you from the "romantically rural Barmouth," where I have been residing these three weeks. You will perhaps scarcely credit me, when I assure you that I experience more pleasure from the seclusion and comparative quietude of this retired spot, than ever I did from the gaiety and dissipation of Bath or Brighton. The day fixed for our intended visit to Cader Idris was wet and gloomy; consequently rendered our jaunt totally impracticable. The day following I had engaged to be at Barmouth; and had written to the landlord of the Red Lion, requesting he would secure an apartment for me. I should not have hesitated in deferring, for a day or two, my visit to Barmouth, had not Sir W. W. W——e (the greatest man in this part of the world) been daily expected there: I therefore deemed it better to postpone my excursion to Cader Idris, which might be performed at any time, than my visit to Barmouth; and as no time was to be lost, I set off, in company with Mr. and Mrs. P. (English visitors here), on the morning of the 15th July, and arrived at my journey's end after a pleasant ride of three hours. The road from Dolgelly to Barmouth (a distance of ten miles) displays so much romantic and picturesque scenery, that it literally "beggars description." Never shall I forget the delightful prospect that burst upon our sight in every direction.

"Here hills and vales, the woodland and the plain—
There earth and water—seem'd to strive again."

About two miles from Dolgelly we reached Llanelltyd, a beautiful little village, which we entered by a neat bridge over the Mowddach, which here has its junction with the Wnion, and both together forming a wide æstuary, enter the ocean at Barmouth*. From this place onward we enjoyed all that variety of landscape so general in North Wales. At one moment, the road, curving into numberless directions, shut into a rocky recess, so contracted that there scarcely appeared a passage out of it; and it was not till we approached the very extremity, that we perceived the acute and sudden turning it took. At another, the azure surface of the river on our left was just perceptible, glittering through the shades of intervening woods. Here were "rocks which rear their scathed heads to the sky, hills which catch the clouds of heaven." There plains, villas, cottages, and vales, watered by murmuring rivulets; and where the ground would admit of it, small patches of cultivation enlivened the scene. Such were the objects we met with on our way to Barmouth.

Most of the houses of Barmouth, or Aber Maw*, are built on the sand, at the base of a large rock, and others at different heights up its side. The situations of the latter are very singular, as they are placed in rows one above another, as high as it is practicable to build them. It is curious for a stranger to wind up along the narrow terraces among these "airy habitations," where on one side he may enter a dwelling, and on the other look down the chimney of his neighbour below. It has been observed, that "the inhabitants might almost cure their bacon in some parts of this town, by the simple process of hanging it out of their windows." Barmouth is the port to Merionethshire; and a tolerably extensive trade is carried on here, by the exportation of the manufactures of the county. At a distance it bears a great resemblance to Gibraltar, which is still more conspicuous from the sea. The beach affords one of the finest walks I ever beheld. The wide river Mowddach is seen winding among the mountains, which form many elegant promontories, some clad with wood, and others exhibiting their almost naked rock, partially covered with purple heath or yellow furze; while the lofty and majestic Cader Idris is seen in the extreme distance beyond the river, towering high above the neighbouring mountains. The Red Lion, situated on a sand bank at the north west end of the town, is a neat inn, with respectable accommodations: it has not long been erected. Pennant informs us, that "within a few years there were the remains of an ancient tower near this place (Barmouth), in which Henry, earl of Richmond, (afterwards king Henry VII.) used to conceal himself, when he came over to consult with his friends about the proposed revolution:" and "that it is celebrated in a poem of those times, comparing it, in point of strength, with Reinallt's Tower, near Mold." This circumstance has now sunk into oblivion; for I could procure no intelligence respecting it from several of the oldest inhabitants.

Barmouth is very much crowded. Sir W. W. W——e and family occupy nearly the whole of the Lion, while the lodgings in the town are actually filled with visitors. Here are two or three families from London, and, *inter alias*, Mrs. W——n, of Quebec Street, with her daughters, whom you may, perhaps, remember to have seen in —— Street. They are on a visit at a Mr. W—e's, a relation of theirs, who resides in the neighbourhood. The judges *(pro tempore)* are expected at Dolgelly about the 14th, before which I shall leave Barmouth. You may therefore address your next to me at the Ship, as before. Adieu!

Yours, &c.

P. S. Since my residence in Wales, I have noticed with great pleasure the sanctified manner in which the Sabbath is observed. There are no shops open, no noisy visiting, but every thing denotes "a day of rest." In the evening the delightful walks in the

* These rivers (from their union) are by the *natives* called Avon Vawr *(the Great River)*.

* Abermaw (the *confux of the Maw, or Mowddach*, which here unites with an arm of the Irish Sea). This was abbreviated into Bermaw, and corrupted into Barmouth.

environs of the town are crowded with decent pedestrians, "sedate, not gay." How long this diligent observance of their religious duties may continue, nobody can determine. Should "modern refinement" find its way into these regions, the rough Cambrians will become as polished as their eastern neighbours; and their native frankness and generosity will give place to reserve, distrust, and etiquette.

NORTH POLE AND THE FISHERIES.

[We commenced our labours (see LITERARY JOURNAL, Nos. 1, 2, &c.) by adverting to the existing expedition for exploring the Polar Seas, and to several speculative opinions which have been offered to the world in connection with the motives for that meritorious undertaking. Want, both of space and of leisure, has hitherto prevented our pursuing those subjects to all the extent which we design; but they shall hereafter be resumed, and in the meantime we now present to our readers the first of the papers by the Danish geographer, M. Malte-Brun, in reply to some of the facts and arguments adduced in the Quarterly Review. M. Malte-Brun's second paper shall immediately follow.]

M. Malte-Brun, a Dane, resident at Paris, and author of several geographical writings, has published the following observations on the subject of the North Polar Seas:—

Certain English writers have indulged themselves in illusory conjectures on a North-west passage by the Pole. They describe Greenland as bursting from the icy barrier which surrounds it; they repeat the traditionary reports of the last century, respecting some whale-ships, said to have reached the Pole, and even to have passed on the other side of it; they presume to doubt the existence of land to the north of Baffin's Bay, although Baffin was the best informed and most judicious seaman England could boast of; and they even flatter themselves, that commerce will be carried on in a direct route from London to Canton, by the Pole, which makes a distance of only two thousand six hundred nautical leagues, whilst that by the Cape of Good Hope is five thousand five hundred leagues.

Two Englishmen, however, of great authority, do not participate in these exaggerated anticipations. Mr. Scoresby, an experienced Greenland captain, thinks that the Polar seas are blocked by ice, and proposes a journey to the Pole by means of sledges drawn by reindeer. Captain Burney, who accompanied the immortal Cook, has published a pamphlet, in which he clearly proves, that there exists a large extent of land to the north of Behring's Straits. He goes too far in supposing, that this land probably unites the two continents of Asia and America; but it is very certain that his arguments are sufficient to contradict the opinion of the existence of an open sea.

The gratitude which the English government merits from every friend to science, ought not to prevent us from examining upon what foundation their hopes of success in this enterprise rest. It is even justice due to the commanders of the expedition, to point out to them beforehand the immense obstacles against which they have to contend.

Fixed and floating ice may be considered as the first of these difficulties. Admitting for a moment the non-existence of a Polar continent; that Greenland, New Siberia, the land to the north of Behring's Strait, and the land seen and coasted by Baffin, are, in reality, but four islands, (as the maps of the sixteenth century appear to represent them,) yet it is very probable, that the narrow seas which separate them are constantly choked with ice. Captain Scoresby observed the ice form itself in the open sea, at more than twenty leagues from the coast of Spitzbergen, and masses of ice arise from the bed of the sea. Thus, then, the principal argument in favour of an open sea is considerably weakened: it will be in vain for them to rely upon the removal of a barrier of ice, shaken by an earthquake, or broken by the strength of the currents. The sea itself freezes, notwithstanding the assertions of Mr. D. Barrington. This truth once proved, incessant variations in the state of the Polar seas may be expected.

From the year 1660 to 1680, the most sanguine hopes were entertained of penetrating to the Pole; yet every authenticated effort to this effect proves all exertion to have been terminated by fixed ice, which arrested the navigators' further pursuit; or by floating masses of it, which, threatening to overwhelm them, compelled them to desist from their courageous enterprise. Captain Wood, who confidently believed the possibility of a passage to the North, was opposed by a continent of ice, which united Nova Zembla, Spitzbergen, and Greenland. Capt. Souter, on the contrary, continued his route to 82 deg. 6 min. in a calm, open channel; but the ice, on each side, beginning to connect, the dread of being blocked up obliged him to abandon his purpose. The adventurous Baffin was able once to navigate the sea which bears his name, but it has since been frequently found that this sea was filled with numerous islands, some of which were one hundred leagues in circumference, and nearly four hundred feet high. Perhaps James's Island, noted in several charts, was itself one of these masses of ice. Captain Wafer frankly confesses that he mistook these fixed masses, of about five hundred feet in height, for real islands. Even the floating ice is often covered with large stones, and trees torn up by the roots, which appearance produces the idea of land. It is very uncertain whether the Dutch discovered, to the east of Spitzbergen, a tract of land, or only a mass of ice. In one of their voyages to the north of Nova Zembla, they found a bank of blueish ice, covered with soil, on which birds had built their nests. Half a century ago, two islands of ice were seen to fix themselves in the Bay of Disco: the Dutch whale-ships visited them, and assigned them a name. The same circumstance took place about Iceland.

Mr. Scoresby informs us, that the water of the sea of Spitzbergen contains only five ounces and three quarters of salt in a gallon of two hundred and thirty-one cubical inches: its weight is to pure water as 1.0260, and it freezes in a cold of 2 deg. by a thermometer *centigrade*. Thus it is probable, that in the Polar nights, that is to say, during our winter, the Arctic seas are covered with ice. The history of different voyages furnishes us with proofs of this: but let us resume the physical discussion.

The masses of floating ice arising from the water of the sea, and which is distinguished by its porous contexture, (owing to the mixture of the volatile qualities of plants,) sink 4-5ths of their thickness into the salt water, the latter being in a freezing state. The masses formed of fresh water have a greater density, and more transparency. Mr. Scoresby made burning-glasses from pieces of it, and lighted the pipes of the astonished sailors. These bodies sink 15-16ths of their thickness below the surface. It appears certain, that the bays and straits of the Polar seas (not generally very deep) are often obstructed by these masses resting at the bottom. The floating ices present obstacles not less redoubtable. The concussion of these masses produce a tremendous noise, which warns the navigator with what facility his vessel would be dashed to pieces, if he were placed between two of these floating islands. It is even asserted, that the wood carried off by the currents kindles by the violent collision caused by the motion of the ice: and flame and smoke arise amidst the gloom of eternal winter. Pieces of floating wood have been often found burnt at the extremities. In winter, the intense cold continually occasions these mountains of ice to split asunder, and at each moment may be heard the explosion of these masses, which separate in enormous chasms. In spring, the motion of the ice chiefly consists in the upsetting of those masses, which lose their equilibrium because some parts dissolve more rapidly than others. In all seasons the broken ice accumulates in the passages or gulfs, and opposes equally the attempts of individuals who expose themselves on foot, and the progress of the vessel, whose motion becomes paralysed.

If to all these considerations be added, that the ordinary course of the ice from the Pole will be found to depend upon two constant and eternal causes, the seasons and the currents, that the removal of the obstacles is only local and momentary; and it will be allowed that the Polar seas will never afford a commercial route. In the mean time, immense benefit may result to the FISHERIES, from the discoveries to be made.

MODERN LEARNING EXEMPLIFIED,

BY A SPECIMEN OF A COLLEGIATE EXAMINATION,

BY THE LATE PROFESSOR PORSON.

[We inserted in our First Number a poetical jeu-d'esprit of the late Professor Porson, and we are now invited by a Correspondent to print the following, which is in prose. We hope the *Times* will not, on the present occasion, as on the preceding one, undertake too hastily to contradict us, and say, that it has "good reason to *know*, that 'Modern Learning Exemplified' was written by Messrs. Southey and Coleridge." The subjoined was written by the Cambridge Professor, in ridicule of the Oxford system of education, prior to the reformation which has since been effected at the latter university.]

METAPHYSICS.

Professor. What is a salt-box?

Student. It is a box made to contain salt.

P. How is it divided?

S. Into a salt-box, and a box of salt.

P. Very well. Show the distinction.

S. A salt-box may be where there is no salt, but salt is absolutely necessary to the existence of a box of salt.

P. Are not salt-boxes otherwise divided?

S. Yes, by a partition.

P. What is the use of this division?

S. To separate the coarse salt from the fine.

P. How! think a little.

S. To separate the fine salt from the coarse.

P. To be sure: to separate the fine from the coarse. But are not salt-boxes otherwise distinguished?

S. Yes; into possible, probable, and positive.

P. Define these several kinds of salt-boxes.

S. A *possible* salt-box is a salt-box yet unsold in the joiner's hands.

P. Why so?

S. Because it hath not yet become a salt-box, having never had any salt in it, and it may probably* be applied to some other use.

P. Very true; for a salt-box which never had, hath not now, and perhaps never may have any salt in it, can only be termed a possible salt-box.—What is a *probable* salt-box?

S. It is a salt-box in the hand of one going to a shop to buy salt, and who hath sixpence in his pocket to pay the shopkeeper. And a *positive* salt-box is one which hath actually and *bonâ fide* got salt in it.

P. Very good: what other divisions of salt-boxes do you recollect?

S. They are divided into *substantive* and *pendent*. A substantive salt-box is that which stands by itself on the table or dresser, and the pendent is that which hangs by a nail against the wall.

P. What is the idea of a salt-box?

S. It is that image which the mind conceives of a salt-box when no salt is present.

P. What is the abstract idea of a salt-box?

S. It is the idea of a salt-box abstracted from the idea of a box, or of salt, or of a salt-box, or of a box of salt.

P. Very right: by this means you acquire a most perfect knowledge of a salt-box: but, tell me, is the idea of a salt-box a salt-idea?

S. Not unless the ideal box hath the idea of salt contained in it.

P. True: and therefore an abstract idea cannot be either salt or fresh, round or square, long or short; and this shows the difference between a salt idea and an idea of salt.—Is an aptitude to hold salt an essential, or an accidental property of a salt-box?

S. It is *essential:* but if there should be a crack in the bottom of the box, the aptitude to spill salt would be termed an *accidental* property of that salt-box.

P. Very well, very well indeed: what is the salt called with respect to the box?

S. It is called its contents.

P. And why so?

S. Because the cook is content, *quoad hoc*, to find plenty of salt in the box.

P. You are very right. Let us now proceed to

LOGIC.

P. How many modes are there in a salt-box?

S. Three; bottom, top, and sides.

P. How many modes are there in salt-boxes?

S. Four; the formal, the substantial, the accidental, and the topsey-turvey.

P. Define these several modes.

S. The *formal* respects the figure or shape of the box, such as round, square, oblong, &c. The *substantial* respects the work of the joiner; and the *accidental* depends upon the string by which the box is hung against the wall.

P. Very well: what are the consequences of the accidental mode?

S. If the string should break, the box would fall, the salt be spilt, the salt-box broken, and the cook in a passion; and this is the *accidental* mode, with its *consequences*.

P. How do you distinguish between the top and bottom of a salt-box?

S. The top of a box is that part which is uppermost, and the bottom that which is lowest in all positions.

P. You should rather say, the uppermost part is the top, and the lowest part the bottom. How is it then, if the bottom should be the uppermost?

S. The top would then be lowermost, so that the bottom would become the top, and the top would become the bottom; and this is called the *topsey-turvey* mode, which is nearly allied to the *accidental*, and frequently arises from it.

P. Very good.—But are not salt-boxes sometimes single, and sometimes double?

S. Yes.

P. Well then, mention the several combinations of salt-boxes, with respect to their having salt or not.

S. They are divided into single salt-boxes, having salt; single salt-boxes, having no salt; double salt-boxes, having no salt; double salt-boxes, having salt; and single double salt-boxes, having salt and no salt.

P. Hold! hold! you are going too far. *Governor of the Institution.* We can't allow further time for logic; proceed, if you please, to

NATURAL PHILOSOPHY.

P. Pray, sir, what is a salt-box?

S. It is a combination of matter, fitted, framed, and joined by the hands of a workman in the form of a box, and adapted to the purpose of receiving, containing, and retaining salt.

P. Very good: what are the mechanical powers concerned in the construction of a salt-box?

S. The axe, the saw, the plane, and the hammer.

P. How are these powers applied to the purpose intended?

S. The axe to fell the tree, the saw to split the timber.—

P. Consider; it is the property of the mall and wedge to *split*.

S. The saw to *slit* the timber, the plane to smooth and thin the boards.

P. How? Take time; take time.

S. To thin and smooth the boards.

P. To be sure; the boards are first thinned and then smoothed. Go on.

S. The plane to thin and smooth, and the hammer to drive the nails.

P. Or rather tacks.—Have not some philosophers considered *glue* as one of the mechanical powers?

S. Yes; and it is still so considered; but it is called an *inverse* mechanical power; because, where it is the property of the direct mechanical powers to generate motion; glue, on the contrary, prevents motion, by keeping the parts to which it is applied fixed to each other.

P. Very true: what is the mechanical law of the *saw?*

S. The power is to resistance as the number of teeth and force impressed, multiplied by the number of strokes in a given time.

P. Is the saw only used in slitting timber into boards?

S. Yes: it is also employed in cutting boards into lengths.

P. No *lengths*. A thing cannot be said to have been cut into lengths.

S. Into *shortnesses*.

P. Very right: what are the mechanical laws of the hammer?

Governor. We have just received intelligence, that dinner is nearly ready; and as the medical class is yet to be examined, let the medical gentlemen therefore come forward.

ANATOMY.

P. What is a salt-box?

S. It is a body composed of wood, glue, nails, and hinges.

P. How is this body divided?

S. Into external and internal.

* Qu. possibly?—Ed.

P. Very good: external and internal; very proper: and what are the external parts of a salt-box?

S. One fundamental, four laterals, and one super-lateral.

P. And how do you find the internal part of a salt-box?

S. Divided by a vertical membrane or partition into two large cavities, or *simuses*.

P. Are these cavities always equal?

S. They used to be so formerly; but modern joiners have found it best to have them unequal, for the more convenient accommodation of the *viscera*, or contents: the larger cavity for the reception of the coarser *viscera*, and the smaller for the fine.

P. Very true, sir; thus have modern joiners, by their improvements, excelled the first makers of salt-boxes. Tell me now, What peculiarity do you observe in the super-lateral member of the salt-box?

S. Whereas all the other members are fixed and stationary, with respect to each other, the super-lateral is moveable on a pair of hinges.

P. To what purpose is it so constructed?

S. For the admission, retention, and emission, of the saline particles.

Governor. This is sufficient. Let us proceed to

SURGERY, AND THE PRACTICE OF PHYSIC.

P. Mention a few of the disorders to which a salt-box is liable.

S. A cracked and leaky fundamental; gaping of the joints in the lateral; luxation of the hinges; and an accession and concretion of filth and foulness, external and internal.

P. Very well. How would you treat these disorders? begin with the first.

S. I would caulk the leaky fundamental with pledgets of tow, which I would secure in the fissure by a strip of linen or paper pasted over. For the starting lateral points, I would administer powerful astringents, such as the *gluten cornuosa*, and would bind the parts together by triple bandages, until the joints should knit.

P. Would you not assist with chalybeates?

S. I would *attack* the disease with prepared iron, in doses proportioned to the *strength* of the parts.

P. How would you manage the luxation of the hinge?

S. I would first examine whether it was occasioned by the starting of the points which annex the processes to the supernatural or its antagonist; or by a loss of the *fulcrum*; or by an absolute fracture of the *sutures*. In the first case, I would secure the process by a screw; in the second, I would bring the sutures together, and introduce the fulcrum; and, in the last, I would entirely remove the fractured hinge, and supply its place, *pro tempore*, with one of leather.

P. Very well, sir; very well. Now for your treatment in case of accumulated foulnesses, external and internal. But first tell me how this foulness is contracted.

S. Externally, by the greasy hands of the cook; and internally, by the solutions and adhesion of the saline particles.

P. Very true; and now for the cure.

S. I would first evacuate the abominable vessel, through the *primæ viæ*. I would then exhibit detergents and diluents; such as the saponaceous preparation, with plenty of *aqua fontana*.

P. Would not *aqua cælestis* answer better?

S. Yes; plenty of *aqua cælestis* with the marine sand. I would also apply the friction-brush, with a brisk and strong hand, until the excrementitious concrete should be totally dissolved and removed.

P. Very proper. What next?

S. I would use the cold bath by means of a common pump. I would then apply lintal absorbents; and finally, exsiccate the body by exposition, either in the sun, or before the culinary or kitchen fire.

P. In what situation would you leave the super-lateral valve during the exsiccating operation?

S. I would leave it open to the extent, in order that the rarefied humidities might escape from the abominable cavities or sinuses.

CHYMISTRY.

P. You have mentioned the saponaceous preparation: how is that procured?

S. By the action of a vegetable alkaline salt upon a pinguidinous or unctuous substance.

P. What is salt?

S. It is a substance *sui generis*, pungent to the taste, of an antiseptic quality; and is produced by crystallization, or the evaporation of the fluid in which it is suspended.

P. How many kinds of salt occur in a salt-box?

S. Two; coarse and fine.

P. You have said that the saponaceous preparation is procured by the action of an alkaline salt upon a pinguidinous or unctuous substance. Describe the process.

S. If a great quantity of strong *lye* be procured by passing water through the wood-ashes, and if a very large body of a pinguidinous habit should be immersed in this lye, and exposed to a considerable heat, the action of the lye, or rather of the salts with which it abounds, upon the pinguidinous body, would cause the mixture to coagulate into soap.

Notice was given at this instant that dinner was on the table: the examination was concluded, and the parties separated; the examiners rejoicing in the anticipation of a feast, and the examined happy in finding the fiery trial over.

THE

MARQUESS OF WORCESTER'S CENTURY OF INVENTIONS.

(Concluded from our last, p. 234.)

13. How to make such false decks, as in a moment should kill and take prisoners as many as should board the ship, without blowing the decks up, or destroying them from being reducible, and, in a quarter of an hour's time, should recover their former shape, and to be made fit for any employment, without discovering the secret.

14. How to bring a force to weigh up an anchor, or to do any forcible exploit, in the narrowest or lowest room in any ship, where few hands shall do the work of many; and many hands applicable to the same force, some standing, others sitting, and, by virtue of their several helps, a great force augmented in little room, as effectual as if there were sufficient space to go about with an axle-tree, and work far from the centre.

15. A way how to make a boat work itself against wind and tide; yea, both without the help of man or beast; yet so that the wind or tide, though directly opposite, shall force the ship or boat against itself; and in no point of the compass, but it shall be as effectual as if the wind were in the pupp, or the stream actually with the course it is to steer, according to which the oars shall row, and necessary motions work and move towards the desired port, or point of the compass.

16. How to make a sea-castle, or fortification, cannon-proof, and capable of a thousand men, yet sailable at pleasure to defend a passage, or, in an hour's time, to divide itself into three ships, as fit and trimmed to sail as before: and even whilst it is a fort or castle, they shall be unanimously steered, and effectually be driven by an indifferent strong wind.

17. How to make, upon the Thames, a floating garden of pleasure, with trees, flowers, banqueting-houses, and fountains, stews for all kind of fishes, a reserve for snow to keep wine in, delicate bathing-places, and the like; with music made with[a] mills; and all in the midst of the stream, where it is most rapid.

18. An artificial fountain, to be turned like an hour-glass, by a child, in the twinkling of an eye, it[b] holding great quantity

[a] "by."—MS.
[b] "yet."

of water, and of force sufficient to make snow, ice, and thunder; with a[c] chirping and singing of birds, and showing of several shapes and effects, usual to fountains of pleasure

19. A little engine, within a coach, whereby a child may stop it, and secure all persons within it, and the coachman himself, though the horses be never so unruly, in a full career; a child being sufficiently capable to loosen them, in what posture soever they should have put themselves, turning never so short; for a child can do it in the twinkling of an eye.

20. How to bring up water balance-wise, so that as little weight or force as will turn a balance, will be only needful, more than the weight of the water within the buckets, which, counterpoised, empty[d] themselves one into the other, the uppermost yielding its water (how great a quantity soever it holds) at the self-same time[e] the lowermost taketh it in, though it be an hundred fathom high.

21. How to raise water constantly with two buckets only, day and night, without any other force than its own motion, using not so much as any force, wheel, or sucker, nor more pullies than one, on which the cord or chain rolleth, with a bucket fastened at each end. This, I confess, I have seen and learned of the great mathematician Claudius's[f] Studies at Rome, he having made a present thereof unto a cardinal; and I desire not to own any other men's inventions; but if I set down any, to nominate likewise the inventor.

22. To make a river in a garden to ebb and flow constantly, though twenty foot over, with a child's force, in some private room, or place out of sight, and a competent distance from it.

23. To set a clock[g] in a castle, the water filling the trenches about it; it[h] shall show, by ebbing and flowing, the hours, minutes, and seconds, and all the comprehensible motions of the heavens, and counterlibation of the earth, according to Copernicus.

24. How to increase the strength of a spring to such a height, as to shoot bumbasses and bullets of an hundred pound weight a steeple height, and a quarter of a mile off and more, stone-bow-wise, admirable for fire-works and astonishing of besieged cities, when, without warning given by noise, they find themselves so forcible and dangerously surprised.

25. How to make a weight, that cannot take up an hundred pound, and yet shall take up two hundred pounds, and at the self-same distance from the centre; and so, proportionably, to millions of pounds.

26. To raise weight as[i] well and as forcibly with the drawing back of the lever, as with the thrusting it forwards; and by that means to lose no time in motion or strength. This I saw in the arsenal at Venice.

27. A way to remove to-and-fro huge weights, with a most inconsiderable strength, from place to place. For example; ten tun with ten pounds, and less; the said ten pounds not to fall lower than it makes the ten tun to advance or retreat upon a level.

28. A bridge, portable in[k] a cart with six horses, which, in a few hours' time, may be placed over a river half a mile broad, whereon, with much expedition, may be transported horse, foot, and cannon.

29. A portable fortification, able to contain five hundred fighting men, and yet, in six hours' time, may be set up, and made cannon proof, upon the side of a river or pass, with cannon mounted upon it, and as complete as a regular fortification, with half moons and counterscarps.

30. A way, in one night's time, to raise a bulwark, twenty or thirty foot high, cannon proof, and cannon mounted upon it, with men to overlook, command, and batter a town; for, though it contain but four pieces, they shall be able to discharge two hundred bullets each hour.

31. A way how safely and speedily to make an approach to a castle or town-wall, and over the very ditch, at noon day.

32. How to compose an universal character, methodical and easy to be written, yet intelligible in any language; so that if an Englishman write it in English, a Frenchman[l], Italian, Spaniard, Irish, Welch, being scholars, yea, Grecian or Hebritian, shall as perfectly understand it in their own tongue, as if they were perfect English, distinguishing the verbs from nouns, the numbers, tenses, and cases, as properly expressed in their own language as it was written in English.

33. To write with a needle and thread, white, or any colour upon white, or any other colour, so that one stitch shall significantly show any letter, and as readily and as easily show the one letter as the other, and fit for any language.

34. To write by a knotted silk string, so that every knot shall signify any letter, with comma, full-point, or interrogation, and as legible as with pen and ink upon white paper.

35. The like by the fringe of gloves.

36. By stringing of bracelets.

37. By pincked gloves.

38. By holes in the bottom of a sieve.

39. By a lattin, or plate[m] lantern.

40. By the smell.

41. By the taste.

42. By the touch.

By these three senses, as perfectly, distinctly, and unconfusedly, yea, as readily as by the sight.

43. How to vary each of these, so that ten thousand may know them, and yet keep the understanding part from any but their correspondent.

44. To make a key of a chamber door, which, to your sight, hath its wards and rose pipe but paper thick, and yet, at pleasure, in a minute of an hour, shall become a perfect pistol, capable to shoot through a breast plate, commonly of carabine proof, with prime, powder, and fire-lock, undiscoverable in a stranger's hand.

45. How to light a fire and a candle, at what hour of the night one awaketh, without rising or putting one's hand out of the bed. And the same thing becomes[n] a serviceable pistol at pleasure; yet, by a stranger, not knowing the secret, seemeth but a dexterous tinder-box.

46. How to make an artificial bird to fly which way and as long as one pleaseth, by or against the wind, sometimes chirping, other times hovering, still tending the way it is designed for.

47. To make a ball of any metal, which, thrown into a pool or pail of water, shall presently rise from the bottom, and constantly show, by the superficies of the water, the hour of the day or night, never rising more out of the water than just to the minute it showeth of each quarter of the hour; and if by force kept under water, yet the time is not lost, but recovered as soon as it is permitted to rise to the superficies of the water.

48. A screwed ascent, instead of stairs, with fit landing-places to the best chambers of each story, with back stairs within the noell of it, convenient for servants to pass up and down to the inward rooms of them, unseen and private.

49. A portable engine, in way of a tobacco-tongs, whereby a man may get over a wall, or get up again, being come down, finding the coast proving[o] insecure unto him.

50. A complete light portable ladder, which, taken out of one's pocket, may be by himself fastened an hundred feet high to get up by from the ground.

51. A rule of gradation, which, with ease and method, reduceth all things to a private correspondence, most useful for secret intelligence.

52. How to signify words, and a perfect discourse, by jangling of bells of any parish church, or by any musical instrument within hearing, in a seeming way of turning it, or of an unskilful beginner.

53. A way how to make hollow and cover a water-screw, as big and as long as one pleaseth, in an easy and cheap way.

54. How to make a water-screw tight, and yet transparent, and free from breaking: but so clear, that one may palpably see the water, or any heavy thing, how and why it is mounted by turning.

55. A double water-screw, the innermost to mount the water, and the outermost for it to descend more in number of threads, and consequently in quantity of water, though much shorter than the innermost screw, by which the water ascendeth, a most extraordinary help for the turning of the screw to make the water rise.

56. To provide and make, that all the weights of the descending side of a wheel shall be perpetually further from the centre, than those of the mounting side, and yet equal in number and heft to[p] the one side as the other. A most incredible thing, if not seen, but tried before the late King[q] (of blessed memory) in the Tower, by my directions; two extraordinary ambassadors accompanying his Majesty, and the Duke of Richmond and Duke Hamilton, with most of the court attending him. The wheel was fourteen feet over, and forty weights of fifty pounds a-piece. Sir William Balfore[r], then lieutenant of the Tower, can justify it, with several others. They all saw, that no

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[c] "the."
[d] "counterpoise and empty."
[e] "when."
[f] "Clavius."
[g] "as within."
[h] "It," *delet.*
[i] "so."
[k] "upon."
[l] "French."
[m] "candlestick lantern."
[n] "to be."
[o] "proveth."
[p] "of the."
[q] "of happy and glorious, &c."
[r] "Sir W. Belford."

sooner these great weights passed the diameter line of the lower[s] side, but they hung a foot further from the centre, nor no sooner passed the diameter line of the upper[t] side, but they hung a foot nearer. Be pleased to judge the consequence.

57. An ebbing and flowing water-work in two vessels, into either of which the water standing at a level, if a globe be cast in, instead of rising, it presently ebbeth, and so remaineth, until a like globe be cast into the other vessel, which the water is no sooner sensible of, but that[u] vessel presently ebbeth, and the other floweth, and so continueth ebbing and flowing, until one or both of the globes be taken out, working some little effect besides its own motion, without the help of any man within sight or hearing: but if either of the globes be taken out, with ever so swift or easy a motion, at the very instant the ebbing and flowing ceaseth; for if during the ebbing you take out the globe, the water of that vessel presently returneth to flow, and never ebbeth after, until the globe be returned into it, and then the motion beginneth as before.

58. How to make a pistol to discharge a dozen times with one loading, and without so much as once new priming requisite; or to change it out of one hand into the other, or stop one's horse.

59 Another way, as fast and effectual, but more proper for carabines.

60. A way, with a flask appropriated unto it, which will furnish either pistol or carabine with a dozen charges in three minutes' time, to do the whole execution of a dozen shots, as soon as one pleaseth, proportionably.

61. A third way, and particular for muskets, without taking them from their rests to charge or prime, to a like execution, and as fast as the flask, the musket containing but one charge at a time.

62. A way for a harquebuss, a crock, or ship-musket, six upon a carriage, shooting with such expedition, as, without danger, one may charge, level, and discharge them sixty times in a minute of an hour, two or three together.

63. A sixth way, most excellent for sakers, differing from the other, yet as swift.

64. A seventh, tried and approved before the late king (of ever blessed memory), and an hundred lords and commons, in a cannon of eight inches half quarter, to shoot bullets of sixty-four pounds weight, and twenty-four pounds of powder, twenty times in six minutes; so clear from danger, that, after all were discharged, a pound of butter did not melt, being laid upon the cannon britch, nor the green oil discoloured that was first anointed and used between the barrel thereof, and the engine having never in it, nor within six foot, but one charge at a time.

65. A way that one man, in the cabin, may govern the[x] whole side of ship-muskets, to the number (if need require) of two or three thousand shots.

66. A way, that against[y] several avenues to a fort or castle, one man may charge fifty cannons playing, and stopping when he pleaseth, though out of sight of the cannon.

67. A rare way likewise for muskettoons, fastened to the pummel of the saddle, so that a common trooper cannot miss to charge them, with twenty or thirty bullets at a time, even in full career.

When first I gave my thoughts to make guns shoot often, I thought there had been but one only exquisite way inventible; yet, by several trials, and much charge, I have perfectly tried all these.

68. An admirable and most forcible way to drive up water by fire; not by drawing or sucking it upwards, for that must be, as the philosopher calleth it, *infrà sphæram activitatis*, which is but at such a distance. But this way hath no bounder, if the vessels be strong enough; for I have taken a piece of a whole cannon, whereof the end was burst, and filled it three quarters full of water[z], stopping and screwing up the broken end, as also the touch-hole; and making a constant fire under it, within twenty-four hours it burst and made a great crack: so that having[a] a way to make my vessels, so that they are strengthened by the force within them, and the one to fill after the other, I have seen the water run like a constant fountain stream, forty feet high; one vessel of water, rarefied by fire, driveth up forty of cold water: and a man that tends the work is but to turn two cocks, that one vessel of water being consumed, another begins to force and re-fill with cold water, and so successively, the fire being tended and kept constant, which the self-same person may likewise abundantly perform in the interim, between the necessity of turning the said cocks.

69. A way how a little triangle[b] screwed key, not weighing a shilling[c], shall be capable and strong enough to bolt and unbolt round about a great chest, an hundred bolts through fifty staples, two in each, with a direct contrary motion, and as many more from both sides and ends, and at the self-same time shall fasten it to the place, beyond a man's natural strength to take it away; and, in one and the same turn, both locketh and openeth it.

70. A key, with a rose-turning pipe, and two roses pierced through endwise the bit thereof[d], with several handsomely contrived wards, which may likewise do the same effects.

71. A key, perfectly square, with a screw turning within it, and more conceited than any of the rest, and no heavier than the triangle-screwed key, and doth the same effects.

72. An escutcheon, to be placed before any of these locks with these properties.

1. The owner (though a woman) may, with her delicate hand, vary the ways of coming to open the lock ten millions of times, beyond the knowledge of the smith that made it, or of me who invented it.
2. If a stranger open it, it setteth an alarm a-going, which the stranger cannot stop from running out; and, besides, though none should be within hearing, yet it catcheth his hand, as a trap doth a fox; and, though far from maiming him, yet it leaveth such a mark behind it, as will discover him if suspected; the escutcheon, or lock, plainly showing what money he hath taken out of the box, to a farthing, and how many times opened since the owner had been at it.

73. A transmittable gallery over any ditch or breach in a town-wall, with a blind and parapet, cannon proof.

74. A door, whereof the turning of a key, with the help and motion of the handle, makes the hinges to be of either side, and to open either inward or outward, as one is to enter or to go out, or to open in half.

75. How a tape or riband-weaver may set down a whole discourse, without knowing a letter, or interweaving any thing suspicious of other secret than a new-fashioned riband.

76. How to write in the dark, as straight as by day or candle-light.

77. How to make a man to fly; which I have tried with a little boy of ten years old, in a barn, from one end to the other, on a hay-mow.

78. A watch to go constantly, and yet needs no other winding from the first setting on the cord or chain, unless it be broken, requiring no other care from one than to be now and then consulted with, concerning the hour of the day or night; and if it be laid by a week together, it will not err much; but the oftener looked upon, the more exact it showeth the time of the day or night.

79. A way to lock all the boxes of a cabinet (though never so many) at one time, which were by particular keys appropriated to each lock opened severally, and independent the one of the other, as much as concerneth the opening of them, and by these means cannot be left opened unawares.

80. How to make a pistol barrel no thicker than a shilling, and yet able to endure a musket proof of powder and bullet.

81. A comb-conveyance carrying of letters without suspicion, the head being opened with a needle-screw, drawing a spring towards them[e]; the comb being made but after an usual form, carried in one's pocket.

82. A knife, spoon, or fork, in an usual portable case, may have the like conveyances in their handles.

83. A rasping-mill for hartshorn, whereby a child may do the work of half a dozen men, commonly taken up with that work.

84. An instrument whereby persons, ignorant in arithmetic, may perfectly observe numeration and subtraction of all sums and fractions.

85. A little ball, made in the shape of a plumb or pear[f], being dexterously conveyed or forced into a body's mouth, shall presently shoot forth such, and so many bolts of each side and at both ends as, without the owner's key, can neither be opened nor filed off, being made of tempered steel, and as effectually locked as an iron chest.

86. A chair made *à-la-mode*, and yet a stranger, being persuaded to sit down in it, shall have immediately his arms and thighs locked up, beyond his own power to loosen them.

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s "upper."
t "lower."
u "the."
x "a."
y "the."

z "of water."—not in MS.
a "found."
b "and."
c "not weighing a shilling."—Desunt.
d "together" instead of "thereof."

e "one."
f "which."

87. A brass mould to cast candles, in which a man may make five hundred dozen in a day, and add an ingredient to the tallow, which will make it cheaper, and yet so that the candles shall look whiter and last longer.

88.[g] How to make a brazen, or stone head, in the midst of a great field or garden, so artificial and natural, that though a man speak never so softly, and even whispers into the ear thereof, it will presently open its mouth, and resolve the question in French, Latin, Welch, Irish, or English, in good terms, uttering it out of his mouth, and then shut it until the next question be asked.

89. White silk, knotted in the fingers of a pair of white gloves, and so contrived without suspicion, that, playing at *primero* at cards, one may, without clogging his memory, keep reckoning of all sixes, sevens, and aces, which he hath discarded[h].

90. A most dexterous dicing-box, with holes transparent, after the usual fashion, with a device so dexterous, that, with a knock of it against the table, the four good dice are fastened, and it looseneth four false dice, made fit for his purpose.

91. An artificial horse, with saddle and caparisons fit for running at the ring, on which a man being mounted, with his lance in his hand, he can at pleasure make him start, and swiftly to run his career, using the decent posture with *bon grace*, may take the ring as handsomely, and running as swiftly as if he rode upon a barbe.

92. A screw, made like a water-screw, but the bottom made of iron-plate spade-wise, which, at the side of a boat, emptieth the mud of a pond, or raiseth gravel.

93. An engine, whereby one man may take out of the water a ship of five hundred tons, so that it may be caulked, trimmed, and repaired, without need of the usual way of stocks, and as easily let it down again.

94. A little engine, portable in one's pocket, which placed to any door, without any noise, but on crack, openeth any door or gate.

95. A double cross-bow, neat, handsome, and strong, to shoot two arrows, either together, or one after the other so immediately, that a deer cannot run two steps, but, if he miss of one arrow, he may be reached with the other, whether the deer run forward, sideward, or start backward.

96. A way to make a sea-bank so firm and geometrically strong, that a stream can have no power over it; excellent likewise to save the pillar of a bridge, being far cheaper and stronger than stone walls.

97. An instrument, whereby an ignorant person may take any thing in perspective, as justly, and more than the skilfullest painter can do by his eye.

98. An engine, so contrived, that working the *primum mobile* forward or backward, upward or downward, circularly or corner-wise, to-and-fro, straight, upright or down-right, yet the pretended operation continueth, and advanceth none of the motions above-mentioned, hindering, much less stopping the other; but unanimously, and with harmony agreeing, they all augment and contribute strength unto the intended work and operation; and therefore I call this a *semi-omnipotent engine*, and do intend that a model thereof be buried with me.

99. How to make one pound weight to raise an hundred as high as one pound falleth, and yet the hundred pounds descending doth what nothing less than one hundred pounds can effect.

100. Upon so potent a help as these two last mentioned inventions, a water-work is, by many years' experience and labour, so advantageously by me contrived, that a child's force bringeth up an hundred feet high an incredible quantity of water, even two feet diameter[i], so naturally, that the work will not be heard even into the next room; and with so great ease and geometrical symmetry, that, though it work day and night from one end of the year to the other, it will not require forty shillings reparation to the whole engine, nor hinder one's day-work. And I may boldly call it, *the most stupendous work in the whole world:* not only with little charge to drain all sorts of mines, and furnish cities with water, though never so high seated, as well to keep them sweet, running through several streets, and so performing the work of scavengers, as well as furnishing the inhabitants with sufficient water for their private occasions; but likewise supplying the rivers with sufficient to maintain and make them portable from town to town, and for the bettering of lands all the way it runs; with many more advantageous, and yet greater effects of profit, admiration, and consequence: so that deservedly I deem this invention to crown my labours, to reward my expenses, and make my thoughts acquiesce in way of further inventions. This making up the whole century, and preventing any further trouble to the reader for the present, meaning to leave to posterity a book, wherein, under each of these heads, the means to put in execution and visible trial all and every of these inventions, with the shape and form of all things belonging to them, shall be printed by brass plates.

In bonum publicum, et ad majorem Dei gloriam[k].

[g] "88. an engin without y^e least noyse, knock, or use of fyre to coyne and stamp 100lb. in an houre by one man."

[h] "without foul play."

[i] From "so naturally" to "one day's work," not in the MS.

[k] The MS. copy here adds the following sentence, with which it concludes:—"Besydes many omitted, and some of three sorts willingly not set downe, as not fitt to be divulged, least ill use may bee made thereof, butt to show that such things are also within my knowledge, I will here in myne own cypher sett down one of each, not to be concealed when duty and affection obligeth me."—Harl. MS. 2428.

Early English Poetry.

THE WOUNDED CUPID.

(From Anacreon.)

BY ROBERT HERRICK.

Cupid, as he lay among
Roses, by a bee was stung:
Whereupon, in anger, flying
To his mother, said thus, crying,—
Help, oh help, your boy's a dying!
And why, my pretty lad? said she:
Then, blubbering, replied he,
A winged snake has bitten me,
Which country-people call a bee.
At which she smil'd; then with her hairs
And kisses, drying up his tears;
Alas! said she, my wag! if this
Such a pernicious torment is;
Come tell me, then, how great's the smart
Of those thou woundest with thy dart!

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

June 26 to July 2.

AGRICULTURE.

Letters and Papers on Agriculture, Planting, &c.; selected from the Correspondence of the Bath and West of England Agricultural Society. Vol. 14. 8vo. 7s. 6d.

ALGEBRA.

Conversations in Algebra; being an Introduction to the First Principles of that Science. By W. Cole. 12mo. 7s.

ANGLING.

The Angler's Vade Mecum. By W. Carroll. 12mo. 9s.

BIOGRAPHY.

Memoirs of John Duke of Marlborough, &c. By W. Coxe, M.A., F.R.S. Vol. 2. 4to. 3l. 3s.

DRAMA.

The Jew of Malta, Edward the Second, and Dr. Faustus; being Part of an Improved Edition of Marlowe's Plays, edited by J. Broughton.

EDUCATION.

The Juvenile Class-Book; or, Sequel to the Child's Companion. By W. Putsey. 12mo. 2s. bound.

GENEALOGY.

The Right of Richard Stafford Cooke, of Wisbeach, to the Ancient Barony of Stafford, contrasted with the Claim made to that Peerage by his kinsman Sir George Jerningham, Bart. By John Campbell, Esq., including the Two Genealogical Tables. 4to. 4l. 4s.

GEOGRAPHY.

The Edinburgh Gazetteer; a Geographical Dictionary.

LAW.

Reports of Cases argued and determined in the High Court of Chancery, commencing in the Sittings before Hilary Term, 1818. By John Wilson, Esq. Royal 8vo. Vol. I. Part I. 7s.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Classical Journal, No. 34. 8vo. 6s.
The Pamphleteer, No. 23. 8vo. 6s. 6d.
Bysh's Miniature Magazine. No. 1. 6d. monthly.
A Journal of Science and the Arts; edited at the Royal Institution. No. 10. 8vo. 7s. 6d.
An Autumn near the Rhine; or, Sketches of Courts, Society, and Scenery, in some of the German States bordering on the Rhine, with a Map. 8vo. 14s.

NAVAL HISTORY.

Naval Chronology of Great Britain; or, an Historical Account of Naval and Maritime Events from 1803 to the end of 1816. With numerous Engravings. By J. Ralfe. Part 3. 10s. 6d.

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New Tales. By Mrs. Opie. 4 vols. 12mo. 1l. 8s.
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Johnson's (Samuel, LL.D.) Dictionary of the English Language; with numerous Corrections, and the Addition of many Thousand Words. By the Rev. H. J. Todd, M.A., F.S.A. Part 11. 4to. 1l. 1s.; the same now complete, 5 vols. 11l. 11s.

POETRY.

Rodian Castle: a Poem in Six Cantos. With Notes. 8vo. 10s. 6d.
Evening Hours; a Collection of Original Poems. 5s. 6d.
A Monody on the Death of the Princess Charlotte. By the Author of "Evening Hours." 2s.

THEOLOGY.

On Protestant Non-Conformity. By Josiah Conder. 2 vols. 8vo. 14s.

VOYAGES AND TRAVELS.

A Journey from India to England, through Persia, Georgia, Russia, Poland, and Prussia, in the Year 1817. By Lieut.-Colonel Johnson. With Engravings. 4to. 2l. 2s.

A Second Journey through Persia to Constantinople, between the Years 1810 and 1816. With a Journal of the Voyage by the Brazils and Bombay to the Persian Gulf; together with an Account of the Embassy of Sir Gore Onsley, Bart., K. S. L. By James Morier, Esq. With Maps. Royal 4to. 3l. 13s. 6d.

KNOWLEDGE AND SCIENCE.

New Method of detecting Arsenic and Corrosive Sublimate.—Brugnatelli has proposed the following method of detecting these poisonous substances. Take a quantity of fresh wheat starch, mix it with water, and add a sufficient quantity of *iodine* to give the liquid a lively blue colour. When an aqueous solution of white arsenic is let fall into this liquid, the blue colour disappears, and it becomes reddish. The same change is brought about by a solution of corrosive sublimate.—*Ann. de Chim. et Phys.*

Mammoth and Crocodile in England.—There have been recently discovered in the parish of Motteston, on the south side of the Isle of Wight, the bones of that stupendous animal supposed to be the Mammoth, or Mastodon. Several of the vertebræ or joints of the back-bone measure thirty-six inches in circumference. They correspond exactly in form, colour, and texture, with the bones found in plenty on the banks of the Ohio, in North America, in a vale called by the Indians Big Bone Swamp. Also, in the parish of Northwood, on the north side of the island, the bones of the Crocodile have recently been found, by the Rev. Mr. Hughes, of Newport. They seem to have belonged to an animal of that species, whose body did not exceed 12 feet in length. Their calcareous nature is not altered: but the bones of the Mastodon (found on the south side of the island) contain iron.

ARTS AND MANUFACTURES.

Chrystallisation of Tin.—In a preceding Number (No. 11) of the Literary Journal, is given an account of the new manufacture of chrystallised tin, metallic spar, or metallic mohair or watering, with an explanation of the grammatical error which has crept into so many of our periodical publications and higher authorities; namely, the writing and pronouncing the words of the French name *moiré*, instead of *moire métallique*. It is gratifying to learn that there is now an extensive manufacture of this elegant ware established at Battersea, and that numerous females are employed in the simpler parts of the process.

AN ACCOUNT
OF THE
OPAS, OR POISON-TREE OF JAVA.

(Continued from No. 14, p. 218.)

"*Another Account of the Poa-Upas, or Poison-Tree of Macasser, from an inaugural Dissertation; published by Christ. Aejmelæus, and approved by Professor Thunberg, at Upsal.*

"Doctor Aejmelæus first speaks of poisons in general, enumerating many virulent ones from the mineral and animal, as well as from the vegetable kingdoms of nature. Of the first, he mentions arsenical, mercurial, and antimonial preparations; amongst the second, he mentions the poisons of several serpents, fishes, and insects; and amongst the last the Curara on the bank of the Oronoko, and the Woorara on the banks of the Amazones, and many others. But he thinks the strongest is that of a tree hitherto undescribed, known by the name of Boa-Upas, which grows in many of the warmer parts of India, principally in the islands of Java, Sumatra, Borneo, Bali, Macasser, and Celebes.

"Rumphius testifies, concerning this Indian poison, that it was more terrible to the Dutch than any warlike instrument: it is by him styled Arbor toxicaria, and mentions two species of it, which he terms male and female; and describes the tree as having a thick trunk, with spreading branches, covered with a rough dark bark. The wood, he adds, is very solid, of a pale yellow, and variegated with black spots, but the fructification is yet unknown.

"Professor Thunberg supposes the Boa-Upas to be a Cestrum, or a tree of the same natural family; and describes a Cestrum of the Cape of Good Hope, the juice of which the Hottentots mix with a venom of a certain serpent, which is said to increase the deleterious quality of them both.

"The Boa-Upas tree is easily recognized at a distance, being always solitary, the soil around it being barren, and, as it were, burnt up; the dried juice is dark brown, liquifying by heat, like other resins. It is collected with the greatest caution, the person having his head, hands, and feet carefully covered with linen, that his whole body may be protected from the vapour, as well as from the droppings of the tree. No one can approach so near as to gather the juice; hence they supply bamboos, pointed like a spear, which they thrust obliquely, with great force, into the trunk; the juice oozing out gradually, fills the upper joint; and the nearer the root the wound is made, the more virulent the poison is supposed to be. Sometimes upwards of twenty reeds are left fixed in the tree for three or four days, that the juice may collect and harden in the cavities; the upper joint of the reed is then cut off from the remaining part, the concreted juice is formed into globules or sticks, and is kept in hollow reeds, carefully closed, and wrapped in tenfold linen. It is every week taken out to prevent its becoming mouldy, which spoils it. The deleterious quality appears to be volatile, since it loses much of its power in the time of one year, and in a few years becomes totally effete.

"The vapour of the tree produces numbness and spasms of the limbs; and if any one stands under it bare-headed, he loses his hair; and if a drop falls on him, violent inflammation ensues. Birds, which sit on the branches a short time, drop down dead, and can even with difficulty fly over it: and not only no vegetables grow under it, but the ground is barren a stone cast around it.

"A person wounded by a dart poisoned with this juice feels immediately a sense of heat over his whole body, with great vertigo, to which death soon succeeds. A person wounded with the Java poison, was affected with tremor of the limbs, and starting of the tendons, in five minutes, and died in less than sixteen minutes, with marks of great anxiety: the corpse, in a few hours, was covered with petechial spots, the face became tumid and lead-coloured, and the white part of the eye became yellow.

"The natives try the strength of their poison by a singular test: some of the expressed juice of the root of Amonium Zerumbet is mixed with a little water, and a bit of the poisonous gum or resin is dropped into it; an effervescence instantly takes place, by the violence of which they judge of the strength of the poison.—What air can be extricated during this effervescence?—This experiment is said to be dangerous to the operator.

"As the juice is capable of being dissolved in arrack, and is thence supposed to be principally of a resinous nature, the professor does not credit that fountains have been poisoned with it

"This poison has been employed as a punishment for capital crimes in Macasser and other islands: in those cases some experiments have been made; and when a finger only had been wounded with a dart, the immediate amputation of it did not save the criminal from death.

"The poison from what has been termed the female tree, is less deleterious than the other, and has been used chiefly in hunting: the carcasses of animals thus destroyed are eaten with impunity. The poison-juice is said to be used externally as a remedy against other poisons, in the form of a plaister; also to be used internally for the same purpose; and is believed to alleviate the pain, and extract the poison of venemous insects sooner than any other application.

"The author concludes, that these accounts have been exaggerated by Mahomedan priests, who have persuaded their followers that the Prophet Mahomet planted this noxious tree as a punishment for the sins of mankind."

(To be continued.)

Fugitive Poetry.

BEAUTY'S VALUE.

BY W. SHAKSPEARE.

Beauty is but a vain and fleeting good,
A shining gloss that fadeth suddenly,
A flower that dies when almost in the bud,
A brittle glass that breaketh presently:
A fleeting good, a gloss, a glass, a flower,
Lost, faded, broken, dead, within an hour.
As goods when lost are wondrous seldom found,
As faded gloss no rubbing can excite,
As flowers when dead are trampled on the ground,
As broken glass no cement can unite:
So Beauty blemish'd once, is ever lost,
In spite of physic, painting, pains, and cost.

IMITATION.

Beauty 's like bubbles on the water's brim;
Or, like the gnat that round the flame doth skim;
Or, as the ice that meets the sun's hot glow;
It is a cheering ray 'mid April showers;
Or, matin dews on summer's gaudy flowers:
Or, like the bosom of the spotless snow.

Beauty's like promis'd favour from the great:
Or, like the pride and pomp of earthly state;

Or, as the glow-worm to the gazer's sight;
  It is as lark that sings in matin ray:
  Or, as the bloom that's cheer'd in early May;
Or, friendly gleam athwart the gloom of night.

The *bubble* breaks—the *gnat* is scorch'd in fires—
The sun melts *ice*—chill *April's ray* expires—
The *dew* dissolves—the *snow* pure water yields—
  The *great* forget—in *death* all pomp is lost—
  The glow-worm fades—the *bloom* is nipp'd by frost—
The moon is scarf'd—the *lark* descends the fields.
Yea, with all these, must Beauty yield its prime,
Cropp'd by the chilling hand of heavy time!

'Tis not the bolt, the bar, the cell,
  That can control mankind;
That which alone creates his hell,
  Is a tormented mind.

'Tis not the genius fraught with fires,
  That galling fetters bind;
But 'tis that wretch whose vile desires
  Have gangren'd o'er his mind.

'Tis not the prison's baleful gloom,
  Nor jailer's mien unkind;
No—not all these can ever doom
  The free and guiltless mind.

'Tis not the terror of disgrace
  That keeps the soul confin'd;
All ills the suff'rer may efface,
  So he be free in mind.

Such is my plea; with this I'm blest,
  For after all I find,
With sovereign truth my soul's at rest,
  All's tranquil in my mind.

THE DRAMA.

SURREY THEATRE.—The admirers of Dr. Smollet's works, (and who does not admire them?) will be gratified to hear that a burletta, founded on one of his best novels, *Humphry Clinker*, has been produced at this theatre, with great success. When we first heard of Mr. Dibdin's intention of dramatizing some of our most popular novels, *Humphry Clinker* presented itself to us as furnishing better materials than any other, it possessing so many interesting circumstances, which exhibited human nature in its noblest and most amiable form. We will not detain our readers by detailing what they must all know; and shall only observe, that the whimsical eccentricities of *Lieut. Lismahago* and *Miss Tabitha*, not forgetting her dog Chouder, the conflagration of the inn, the stratagems of *Wilson* to gain *Miss Melford*, the courtship of *Humphry* and *Winny Jenkins*, and the adventures of poor *Humphry* in Newgate, and his final elevation, are all portrayed with great fidelity. The scene in Newgate was excellent. The language is that of Smollet: and the songs, all of which, except two, are new, are very appropriate. Mr. GATTIE, who is engaged at this theatre, played the honest and generous Welsh Squire with great feeling; Mrs. ORGER, whose "pretty round Welsh face" might have captivated a youth of higher pretensions than *Humphry Clinker*, played *Winny Jenkins* with that innocence which belongs to the character, and sung the late Mr. Charles Dibdin's song of "Abergavenny is fine" very agreeably; Mrs. BROOKES, as *Miss Tabitha*, was "exceedingly starched, vain, and ridiculous;" and SMITH was as good a *Lieutenant Lismahago*, as his uncouth voice would permit him. We had nearly forgotten the hero of the piece, *Humphry Clinker*, enacted by Mr. FITZWILLIAM: but as the talents of this favourite performer are so well known, we need only say that we never saw him more at home. The burletta was very well received, and will, we doubt not, long continue a favourite.

The *Duke and the Devil*, a comic melodramatic burletta, which has been played several nights at this theatre, is founded on an ancient tragi-comedy taken from the Italian, entitled "*Trappolin creduto Principe;* or, Trappolin supposed a Prince," written by Sir Aston Cokain, and first printed in 1658. It possesses an infinite deal of humour. FITZWILLIAM played *Trappolin;* and in his extravagant and ludicrous personation of the *Duke* reminded us of MUNDEN's *Sam Dabs*, and in his drunken scene of CHARLES KEMBLE's *Cassio*, kept the house in a continual roar of laughter; and Miss BEAUMONT sung a sweet song very prettily; she only wants a little more confidence in her own talents.

Original Poetry.

A STUDENT'S RECREATIONS;

OR,

Extracts from a Poetical Portfolio.

No. VI.

TRANSLATION OF PETRARCH'S 28TH SONNET.

"Solo e pensoso, i piu deserti campi."

Alone, and pensive, through these desert shades,
  I pace the earth, with sluggish steps and slow;
  Avoiding watchfully, as forth I go,
Each human haunt—intent, till daylight fades,
To shun man's piercing gaze and question rude;
  For long of cheerful thoughts bereft by care,
  My love-lorn form betrays my mind's despair,
And my heart's fires through my sad eyes protrude:
While fancy whispers, that the hills and plains,
  The streams and forests, know, though so conceal'd,
The story of my life, its joys, and pains;
  And in my walks no spot is e'er reveal'd,
But there Love strays, and haunts, unceasingly,
Conversing—I with him, and he with me.

STANZAS.

Her kisses hang upon my lips
  Like morning's dews upon the rose;
As soft, as sweet, as balmy too,
And, oh! the lip that tastes such dew,
  Like dying love, immortal grows!

Her accents break upon mine ear,
  Like music o'er some stream at night;
I'm not on Earth when she is near,
Nor yet in Heav'n, but in some sphere,
  That is than either far more bright.

LINES.

"This is very *Midsummer* MADNESS."—*Shakspeare.*

I love my love to such excess,
  And prize her with such jealous care,
That I could quarrel with the breeze,
  Which plays within her golden hair.

So great's the madness of my heart,
  With such fierce passion do I glow,
That oft I wish to rend the robe
  Which dares to clasp her breast of snow.

And when in noontide high she roves
  Within the sun's enamour'd gaze,
I call for night to shroud the groves,
  That he may not so *warmly* gaze.

So do I doat upon the fair,
  Such is my passion's ecstacy,
That I could quarrel with the air,
  To which she gives her balmy sigh.

Yet Reason's censure sharp defer,
  My folly's dream too well I see;
But I'd be air, robe, all, to her,
  She should be every thing to me.

STANZAS.

Let fools with disappointment groan,
  My bliss no mortal can defer,
For it springs from myself, alone;
  Yes—yes, the very *dream* of her
Is far more rapturous to me,
Than any other's *self* can be *.

Then lull thy cares for me to rest,
  Still let me idly slumber on;
I would not, if I could, be blest,
  My happy dreams might then be gone:
And, oh! I would not risk to lose 'em,
For e'en the heav'n of her bosom.

For were she less than I have form'd,
  Though still she might an angel be
To those, by love like mine unwarm'd,
  She'd less than woman seem to me.
And after dreams of Heav'n, to wake
To mortal charms, my heart would break!

* Nearly the same sentiment as this is expressed by *Shenstone* in his exquisite, often quoted (but it is hoped *not too* OFTEN,) Inscription at the *Leasowes*, to the memory of *Miss Dolman*:—

"Heu quanto minus est cum reliquis versari quam tui meminisse."

STANZAS TO MAIA,

LOOKING AT A PICTURE.

See, what a lovely picture's here!
  Ting'd with raptures loveliest hue,
A lover, sitting by his dear,
  Just, my dear, like I and you.
What magic had the painter's hand,
  For while we gaze we *scent* * the flowers,
And almost feel the zephyrs bland,
  Which seem to cool those trellis'd bowers.

Look at the youth! love's in his eye,
  His slender form beams ripe for bliss;
He seems to whisper "no one's nigh,
  Then grant, dear maid, the promis'd kiss!"
Look at that maid! what fiery blushes
  Are mantling on her rich young cheek;
See from her eye what brilliance gushes,
  Oh! more than thousand words they speak.

See, his fond arm how gently twining
  Around her soft retiring waist;
And see his lip how blandly joining
  Her melting cheek so warmly chaste.
Oh! as it glows in colours warm,
  'Tis sure a picture bright to see;
But we a brighter one could form,
  One dearest in reality.

* So Philostratus, speaking of a picture:—
επαινω και τον ενδροσιν των.

CHERRIES.

As cherries are now in season, the following "Lover's Narrative" may not be an unacceptable accompaniment to a pottle of them. It is founded on a passage in Rousseau,

which for the further gratification of the reader is here prefixed :—

" Après le dîner nous fîmes une économie ; au lieu de prendre le café qui nous restoit du dejeûner, nous le gardâmes pour le goûter avec de la crême et des gâteaux qu'elles avoient apportés ; et pour tenir notre appetit en haleine, nous allâmes dans le verger achever notre dessert avec des cerises. Je montai sur l'arbre et je leur en jetois des bouquets dont elles me rendoient les noyaux à travers les branches. Une fois Mademoiselle Galley, avançant son tablier et reculant la tête, se présentoit si bien, et je visai si juste, que je lui fis tomber un bouquet dans le sein ; et de rire. Je me disois en moi-même : Que mes levies ne sont-elles des cerises ! comme je les leur jetterois ainsi de bon cœur !"—*Les Confessions de Rousseau, Partie* 1, *Livre* 4, *p.* 201. *Paris edit.*

CHERRIES.

A LOVER'S NARRATIVE.

Fled had lazy, languid noon,
When forth we stole, from forest bowers,
My maid and I—
Where, with shade, and song, and tune,
The sullen, breathless, heated hours,
Pass'd sweetly by.

On our way, I softly said,
" Let us to mine orchard go——
'Tis standing nigh ;
There every summer fruit, sweet maid,
Like fruits of knowledge, tempting grow,
To mouth and eye."

" Do'st think me, then, another Eve ?"
In undecided mood, she said,
'Twixt smile and sigh ;
" Would'st thou, like him of old, deceive
To eat the fruit forbid to maid ?"
Deep poz'd was I.

At length, with many a true love vow,
The which she chid, but joy'd to hear,
Did I reply ;
And to mine orchard haste we now,
With steps, that shake with hope and fear,
Delightfully.

There up a cherry-tree I spring :
With heart as light as heart can be
The maid stands by ;
I move as if each limb were wing,
And, oh ! entranced creature, she,
How great her joy !

Then to come underneath, I ask
The maid, and spread her lap of snow ;
While I would try,
Oh, sweet employ ! delightful task !
Into that snowy lap to throw
The clusters high.

She answers with the wish'd for deed :
I cherries pluck, one, two, and three ;
Adown they fly ;
" See how like love-lorn hearts they bleed,"
She playfully cries out to me,
" And blushing lie !"

Her lap is white as new-fall'n snow,
Or lamb, yet seat of whiter state
Attracts mine eye ;
Her bosom !—there I dext'rous throw
The cherries next, with courage great,
Oh, ecstacy !

She laugh'd !—it caus'd me cry aloud,
Without (for hope had made me proud,)
Or blush, or sigh ;
" Oh that my *lips* but *cherries* were,
How gladly would I throw *them* there,
Entranc'd to lie !"

She did not frown :—that day is gone,
And I since then have met her scorn ;
Lorn creature I !
Her heart in thought I have survey'd,
And this sad simile have made——
I know not why :

Like the red-hearted cherry, it
Can blush, and bleed, and 'guile the art
That seeks to sip ;
Can tempt the taste to try and win,
Which all, alas ! is *stone* within,
And mocks the lip.

It may be necessary to state, that this poetical trifle was the author's first exercise in the simple, story-telling school of the lake poets. He is not sure, at this moment, whether his intentions, when writing this poem, were seriously to imitate the exquisite simplicity and nature of his masters, or playfully to mimic their puerility, colloquiality, and occasional inanity. This the reader will, perhaps, decide for him on perusal. An imperfect and mutilated copy of these lines were surreptitiously printed, in an obscure publication, some time ago ; but they have never appeared in a perfect manner, or with the consent of the author, till now. GIOVANNI.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Literary Scraps, An Ancient Briton, **, J. H., and CHRYSTALLOPHILUS, in our next.

We have forwarded AUTOLYCUS to the author of the passage to which he refers.

We were misled by the arrangement of the advertisement in No. 14, when we ascribed (No. 15,) the Tale of " Altham and his Wife" to Mr. Bysshe Shelley. " Altham and his Wife" is anonymous.

C. D. informs us that the " Letters from North Wales, No. I," has already been copied, in a mutilated state, into a magazine, without acknowledgment of its origin. We have heard, in various directions, of the same silent transfer of most of the contents of our several Numbers.

Mr. CLYMER's new Printing Press, (with which the LITERARY JOURNAL is printed,) in our next.

We are sorry that we must decline the insertion of the " Tale" inquired after by S.

In our last, p. 233, col. 3, l. 1, for " Forsakers and mynions," read " For sakers and mynions ;" and make a similar correction in the note, col. 2.

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Antijacobin Review, Nov. 1817.

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